

Americans back sending troops to Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly three out of four Americans approve of President Bill Clinton's decision to send troops to the Gulf to take a stand against Iraq, according to a CNN-U.S. Today poll published Wednesday. An overwhelming majority — 84 per cent — said the United States should take military action if Iraqi troops attack Kuwait and 30 per cent said they would support action even if Iraqi forces remain at the border and do not invade. Seventy-four per cent of those polled said they were in favour of sending troops to the Gulf compared to 23 per cent who opposed sending U.S. forces to stave off a possible Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. A majority — 72 per cent — also said they were in favour of forcing Iraqi President Saddam Hussein out from power, with 74 per cent saying that he should have been overthrown during the 1991 Gulf war. Mr. Clinton's handling of the crisis between Baghdad and Washington has boosted public confidence in his foreign affairs abilities, with 43 per cent of respondents giving him an approval rating compared to 40 per cent in September.

Jordan Times

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U.S. says Iraq still poses threat

France opposes 'exclusion zone'; Russian envoys meet Saddam in Baghdad

Combined agency dispatches

U.S. SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher said on Wednesday Iraq still posed an unmistakable threat to Kuwait but Washington stood "shoulder to shoulder" with Gulf Arabs to protect their region rich in oil.

He said on a one-day visit to Kuwait that some of the estimated 80,000 troops Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sent south towards the Kuwaiti border last week were being moved, but he could not confirm yet that they had been withdrawn.

"As of this moment his troops still pose an unmistakable threat," Mr. Christopher said after attending an emergency meeting in Kuwait with foreign ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

"We stand shoulder to shoulder to resist any aggression."

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd also flew to the emirate and said on arrival: "In moments of difficulty Britain stands by her friends."

But France dampened hopes of rekindling the 1991 Gulf war alliance, saying Iraq had violated no U.N. resolutions and a U.S. military buildup in the Gulf appeared at least partly motivated by domestic politics.

The deployment of American forces "was not unconnected to domestic politics," Defence Minister Francois

Leotard told reporters in Paris.

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said France opposed creation of an exclusion zone for Iraqi land forces in southern Iraq — an idea being pushed by the United States and Kuwait.

Mr. Juppe said France "is not favourable" to extending the zone and thinks the West should "turn down the pressure" if it is confirmed that the Iraqi troops are withdrawing from the border region.

Mr. Juppe also warned against the dangers of "over-reacting" to the border crisis.

U.S. Ambassador Albright said in New York late Tuesday the United States had raised the idea of setting up a demilitarized zone in southern Iraq in consultations with the Security Council.

Mr. Juppe told deputies in parliament: "We should not immediately go to extremes and give the impression that war will break out again."

Baghdad had made a "major political error" in massing its troops near the Kuwaiti border, he said.

"Unfortunately it is the Iraqi people who will pay the price ... and we should not expect the French foreign ministry to turn its attention to erasing the Iraqi government's mistakes."

In Baghdad, Russian envoys met with President Saddam seeking to defuse a crisis.

Igor Ivanov, Russian deputy foreign minister, and Vik-

tor Posulyuk, head of the ministry's Middle East department, met with President Saddam at an undisclosed location in Baghdad.

The official Iraqi News Agency said the meeting was attended by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz and Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sabah.

In a tense announcement carried by the Iraqi agency Wednesday, Mr. Sahaf affirmed: "All troops whose deployment had caused such an uproar in the United States have completed their retreat to rear positions this evening."

A Russian embassy spokesman said Russian Military Attaché Vladimir Staroik and his Chinese counterpart headed south Wednesday at the Iraqi government's request. He refused to be identified by name or give details of their mission.

The Iraqi media gave no details of President Saddam's talks with the two envoys.

Russia's Interfax news agency reported that Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev would join the team on Thursday, elevating the diplomatic effort to calm fears that Iraq planned a repeat of its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Iraq says that it never intended to re-invade its southern neighbour, and that the troop buildup was part of routine rotations and military exercises.

Baghdad continued to insist it has withdrawn the

troops whose movement near the border last week sparked the crisis and said it would not recognise Kuwait unless the U.N. sanctions imposed after its invasion of Kuwait in 1990 were lifted.

"We are besieged and the people are starving, and recognise Kuwait? That is asking the impossible," Parliament Speaker Saadi Mehdie Saleh said when asked if Iraq would recognise Kuwait.

The Iraqi buildup was widely seen as an attempt to press the U.N. security council to ease the punitive economic sanctions.

Mr. Christopher said all sides agreed Iraqi troops must abandon their present posture, adding: "There is some movement of the troops, but we're not in any position yet to say that the troops have been withdrawn."

The foreign ministers of the GCC — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates — said the allied buildup to counter Iraqi forces north of the Kuwaiti border should continue as long as the threat to the emirate remained.

"(The GCC) ministers agreed that mobilisation of resources and deployment of forces should continue until... Iraq no longer poses an immediate threat," GCC Secretary-General Sheikh Fahim Al Qassimi told a news conference.

U.N. military observers told Reuters the border was

quiet.

The United States and Kuwait insist that the sanctions should not be lifted before Iraq explicitly recognises Kuwait's U.N.-demarcated borders and its sovereignty.

U.S. troops positioned Patriot anti-missile missiles near Kuwait airport and over 200 troops of a British marine commando battalion also arrived. Britain is sending two warships and doubling its Tornado planes in the Gulf from six to 12.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived for the GCC meeting saying the U.N. Security Council should take all measures to prevent any repeat of Iraq's latest confrontation with Kuwait, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

The agency did not say what measures Prince Saud sought.

Washington, pledging to end Iraq's "cat and mouse game" over Kuwait, has said it has almost 200,000 troops ready to rush to the emirate that was liberated from Iraqi occupation by U.S.-led troops less than four years ago.

Almost 40,000 U.S. troops are on their way to the Gulf or already there. They are backed by 200 planes in place or on the way, the aircraft carrier George Washington, four Tomahawk missile-firing ships and seven other U.S.



Stateless Arabs who have set up a camp near the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border stage a demonstration on Wednesday demanding their right to return to Kuwait and claim their property (AFP photo)

(Continued on page 7)

Jordan does not covet Palestinian land — King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein stressed Wednesday that Jordan had no territorial ambitions in Palestinian land but will continue to offer help to the Palestinian people in all domains.

Addressing a visiting delegation of Israeli Arabs led by Abdul Wahab Darawshe, head of the Arab Democratic Party and member of the Israeli Parliament, King Hussein said Jordan's position was and still is crystal clear on never conceding any inch of Palestinian Arab land.

"The Palestine question is now in the hands of the Palestinian people and their leaders who have bravely shouldered their responsibilities with our full backing," added the King at the meeting held at the Royal Court.

The King expressed hope that an independent Palestine would be a democracy, respecting human rights and ensuring the interests of all

individuals.

Referring to the peace process, the King said that it was a "serious process which will hopefully help the Arabs attain their full rights and attain a durable and just peace."

In reply to a request presented by Mr. Darawshe for accepted by Israeli Arabs to be accepted in Jordanian universities, King Hussein said he would examine this question, noting that special arrangements could be worked out in this regard before the start of the next academic year.

In reply to another request for facilities for Muslim pilgrims passing through the Kingdom, King Hussein said that Jordan was offering all possible facilities for their travel but he noted that there are limits concerning the number of pilgrims which are beyond Jordan's control.

Later on Wednesday, King Hussein received at the Royal Court Sir Paul Newall, the lord mayor of London, who is currently on a five-day visit to Jordan. The King and the mayor exchanged views on issues of concern to Britain and Jordan.

King meets Newall

His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday accepts a gift from an Israeli-Arab delegation headed by Member of Knesset Abdul Wahab Darawshe (Petra photo)



Jordan, Israel finalising details of 'peace package'

From Nermene Murad in Elat

From Nermene Murad in Elat

JORDANIAN AND Israeli negotiators are working on the details of a "peace package" that may lead to the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries soon, a senior Israeli negotiator told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

The committees are working on a peace package... something that both sides must be satisfied with," chief Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubenstein said in an interview.

Asked whether a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan could be signed before the end of the year, Ambassador Rubenstein said that "it is technically and theoretically possible," but he did not predict when that would happen.

"The talks are moving in the right direction," Mr. Rubenstein told the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

Asked how wide the "gap" was on the core issues, the delegate only said: "It is a gap."

Another equally cautious delegate said that the two sides "are discussing the de-

tails of the items on the common agenda and especially the core issues of water, territories and security."

Although the Jordanian side is trying to keep a lid over the apparent progress in their negotiations with Israel, a new tone was evident in both Israeli and Jordanian statements this week coupled with downsizing of activity as the final details are worked out among heads of committees and the chief negotiators.

A senior Jordanian negotiator said that he could not deny that "there is movement in the negotiations between us," but that "it is not yet up to where the gap has been bridged."

"Our present efforts are concentrated at bridging the gap on the core issues," the senior delegate told the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

Asked how wide the "gap" was on the core issues, the delegate only said: "It is a gap."

Jordan and Israel resumed peace talks on Monday in a

Jordan-Gulf relation improving — Majali

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said Thursday that relations between Jordan and the Gulf states were rapidly improving and that prospects were good for the return of the Saudi and Jordanian ambassadors respectively to Amman and Riyadh very soon.

In an interview with the Cairo daily Al Ahram, the prime minister also said that relations with Kuwait were also progressing, noting that a Jordanian emissary who visited Kuwait lately was accorded a very warm welcome.

The prime minister noted that he himself met United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahyan in Geneva and the UAE and Jordanian foreign ministers had met in New York.

In the interview, to be published Thursday, Dr. Majali stressed the need for the Arab states to transcend their differences and confront the challenge inherent in the new regional order.

Jordanian-Egyptian relations, Dr. Majali said, are good and that the two countries are currently implementing joint schemes as called for by the higher joint committee that met in Amman two months ago.

Both Amman and Cairo are interested in ensuring a Middle East free of mass destruction weapons and also banning the use of conventional weapons. He said for peace to be sustainable such weapons must be removed from the region for ever.

Dr. Majali said the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations were getting ahead. Sometimes there are positive signs and sometimes the two sides face negative situations, he said.

Judging from the negotiations of the past week, Jordan felt that there were positive signs because Israel has shown a tendency towards solving the outstanding issues. However, Dr. Majali said, the peace process has started and there is nothing that can stop it.

Dr. Majali said the Israeli and Jordanian negotiators were involved in examining questions related to land, water, refugees, economy and security.

Progress has been achieved in such areas as security and water rights, Dr. Majali said. Discussion over the common borders is continuing and it will take a long time although the two sides have agreed to open border crossing points to facilitate the travel of third country nationals, he said.

Jordan has placed its right to the waters of Yarmouk and Jordan rivers at the top of the agenda and is pursuing the negotiations over this through a canal is something said the prime minister, who added that joint water projects with Israel can only be implemented after Jordan secures its full share of water.

The prime minister said linking telephone lines or opening border crossing points is something which can be done easily but linking the Red Sea with the Dead Sea through a canal something that takes years to study and raise funds for. He said most of the joint schemes are beyond reach at the moment.

On Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Dr. Majali said that the aspiration coordination between the two sides does not exist at the moment.

"We need to reach a formula that determines and defines the relationship between the two sides and settles outstanding issues between them," Dr. Majali said.

Referring to the Hashemite's rights in Jerusalem, he said that they date back to the pre-1948 war. Both the Israelis and the Palestinians have agreed to preserve Jordan's guardianship over the holy sites and Jordan will retain this right, especially as the future of the Holy City is still to be negotiated between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Dr. Majali said.

In reply to a question concerning prospects of a confederation between the two

(Continued on page 7)

Self-rule moves in serious crisis over soldier's kidnap

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAEL ON Wednesday held Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat responsible for the fate of an Israeli soldier kidnapped by the Hamas group, saying the trial led to autonomous Gaza Strip.

The kidnapping has plunged Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) into their deepest crisis since the September 1993 signing of the autonomy agreement, and Israeli government ministers threatened to freeze indefinitely talks on expanding self-rule if Mr. Arafat did not act.

Mr. Arafat's spokesman said the missing soldier was not in Gaza, but Mr. Arafat met Wednesday with three leaders of Hamas in the strip and asked for help in finding

the hostage.

"We don't know whether he has been kidnapped because we have not been contacted by any Palestinian group," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In a videotape released by Hamas on Wednesday, the kidnapped soldier, 19-year-old Nachshon Waxman, urged his government to meet his captors' demands and free some 200 Palestinians by 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) Friday.

Israeli government ministers, speaking after an emergency cabinet session Wednesday, said that if Mr. Arafat did not try to catch the kidnappers, Israel could not be expected to negotiate expanding self-rule to the West Bank.

"I ask you to do all you can to get out of here alive," said Cpl. Waxman, staring straight ahead and looking scared and dazed. A man, his

(Continued on page 7)

Home News

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13-14, 1994

NHF theatre programme to present 2 uplifting plays

AMMAN (J.T.) — Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) Theatre-in-Education Programme, in cooperation with the American Cultural Centre in Amman and Amman Marriott Hotel, Saturday and Sunday will present The Artists' Repertory Theatre in two plays: one is said to promote positive themes, and the other is described as a collage of American humour, an NHF statement said Wednesday.

On Saturday evening the actors will perform in Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Three Tall Women." Set in the bedroom of a rich 91-year-old woman who is looked after by a middle-aged woman and another woman in her late 20s, the play reveals that the three women are actually the same person, discussing among themselves the peaks and valleys of one woman's life.

Sunday's performance is ti-

ted "A Journey Through American Comedy," and pastes up the humour of various American playwrights. It comprises dramatic works presenting different styles from previous performances and different types of dramatic literature such as American classic, contemporary/experimental and comic.

Also on Sunday, said the NHF statement, the Artists' Repertory Theatre will hold a workshop entitled, "American Theatre in the 90s: The Women's Voice," for all those interested. The workshop, to be conducted at the American Centre's Auditorium in Abdoun, will focus on the role of women in theatre management, production and play writing.

The performances will be held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor and staged at Hassan Bin Talal Auditorium at the University of Jordan.

Sunday's performance is ti-

Lebanese university official arrives to recruit students

By Cathy King
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Since the cessation of the Lebanese civil war in 1992, the number of Jordanian students attending university in Lebanon has been on the increase, according to visiting Vice President of Lebanese American University in Beirut (LAV) Nabeel Haider.

"Last year there were 100 Jordanian students at our university, and this year there are more than 120. I predict that in the future there will be a further increase," Dr. Haider said Wednesday.

Dr. Haider said the purpose of his five-day visit to the Kingdom was purely academic.

On Monday, Dr. Haider met with President of the University of Jordan Fawzi Gharaibeh to "discuss avenues for cooperation between the two universities," he said.

He was accompanied on his visit by a team from the public relations office at LAV who, he said, had been visiting high schools to talk to 12th grade about LAV, its academic programmes and its facilities offered to foreign students.

Dr. Haider added that another purpose of his coming here was to "put the university back on the educational map with Lebanon's neighbouring countries."

LAV was established in 1924 as the American College for Girls, the first all-girls college in the Middle East. In 1972 it became coeducational and changed its name to Beirut University College (BUC). It was only this year that it took on the new name, Lebanese American University.

"Along with the new name the university changed its mission and now caters more for professional education as opposed to its former concen-

tration on social sciences and humanities," Mr. Haider said.

During his stay, reports concerning Jordanian students having difficulty in obtaining Lebanese visas were raised.

According to Dr. Haider,

Lebanese Ambassador to Jordan William Habib, who left for Beirut Tuesday, said there was "no problem to get a visa provided that the student has been accepted to attend an accredited course, at an accredited university.

"All the students who were accepted by the AUB and LAV received visas," said Mr. Haider.

But, Minister of Higher Education Rateb Saoud Wednesday told the Jordan Times that Jordanian students had faced a visa problem at the start of the summer semester.

"More than 500 students belonging to the Arab University of Lebanon were refused reentry visas. We had to shift them to Jordan University to sit for their end-of-year exams," Mr. Saoud said.

These students mostly live and work in Jordan, but are participating in long distance or correspondence-style courses whereby they only go to Lebanon to take exams at the end of the academic year, he explained.

Meanwhile, the French news agency, AFP, reported Tuesday that 30 students from the American University of Beirut (AUB) were injured in clashes with police during a demonstration against a 10 per cent increase in fees Monday.

Mr. Haider said that LAV had also increased its fees by 10 per cent, but he had not heard of any protest against it. He did not know whether any Jordanian students had been caught up in the trouble at AUB.

"Along with the new name the university changed its mission and now caters more for professional education as opposed to its former concen-

Minister, Italian ambassador review preparations for Jordanian archaeology conference in Turin

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Adwan Wednesday received in his office Italian Ambassador to Jordan Romualdo Bettini and Professor Guillini, director of the Turino Centre for Excavations and Scientific Research in Turin, Italy, to discuss the sixth international conference on the history and archaeology of Jordan, to be held in Turin next June, according to a ministry spokesman.

The conference, entitled "Landscape Resources and Human Occupation Throughout the Ages in Jordan," deals with the application of remote sensing to archaeological research in Jordan including the value of satellite images interpretations and aerial photos in

studying different sites in the Kingdom. It also deals with reports on archaeological field activities between 1992 and 1994, a ministry statement said.

Professor Guillini explained the importance of satellite images in identifying environmental resources and human occupation in Jordan.

He said that 200 experts and archaeologists have been invited to attend the Turin conference, and more than 150 research papers have been prepared so far.

The papers, which were presented at the Jordanian International Conference, were published in four volumes on studies in the history and archaeology of Jordan, said the ministry.

Dr. Adwan and Mr. Bettini reviewed avenues of bi-

lateral cooperation in the field of tourism and antiquities, as well as the role and contribution of the Italian government and institutions in the field of excavations and restorations in Jordan, said the statement.

They also discussed the funds presented to Jordan from Italy to finance archaeological excavations in Jerash and Petra.

The meeting was also attended by Ghassan Mufleh, secretary general of the ministry, Faisal Al Qudah, acting director of the Department of Antiquities, Giovanni Bennenati, the director of the Italian Cultural Office in Amman and several officials from the Ministry of Tourism and the Department of Antiquities.



Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Adwan Wednesday discusses a coming conference in Turin with Italian Ambassador Romualdo Bettini (Petra photo)

Environmentalists tackle waste issues

AMMAN (Petra) — The problem of disposing of solid waste has become a major headache in recent years, particularly for the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment largely because of the significant increase in the volume of waste material collected in urban areas, according to minister Tawfiq Kreishan.

Addressing a one-day seminar on waste dumps in Jordan, organised at the Professional Association Complex by the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA), Mr. Kreishan said that in the 1950s the Kingdom faced no such problem because of the smaller population and also because there were much less plastic, metal, glass and

organic materials discarded by factories and urban residents.

He said the ministry has taken several steps over the years to ensure the safe disposal of such wastes including moving dump sites away from residential areas and burying the materials deep underground.

Mr. Kreishan said that 90 per cent of the solid waste in the country is deposited in 24 locations underground at safe distances from towns.

He said the ministry is also careful to set up dump sites where no danger can be caused to underground water reserves and no atmospheric pollution would occur.

The Ministry of Municip-

waste issues

al Affairs is currently implementing a several-year plan to purchase sufficient waste disposal equipment and is cooperating with the town councils in this area, added the minister.

Several environmental protection engineers discussed problems facing municipalities in dealing with waste gathered from factories and homes and offered suggestions for their safe disposal.

Participants reviewed papers on designing and operating garbage dumps in Ruseifa where, they said, the waste dump there has been severely affecting the environment and polluting the air, and on the disposal of radioactive and plastic waste.

Police arrest relatives of shooting victims; husband dies, wife in critical condition

By Rama Husseini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Police Tuesday arrested four suspects in connection with the shooting of a man and his wife (both 28) in Hina town in Irbid in what appears to be a family feud, police sources said.

According to police reports, the assailants crept up on the couple while the two were sitting in their backyard.

The report said that the husband identified as Ahmad A.M., heard some rustling sounds and when he went to check he was confronted by the intruders, the report said.

The assailants shot Mr.

Ahmad and his wife and beat them with sticks.

Mr. Ahmad was killed instantly, while his wife, identified only as H.A.J., who received a bullet to the neck and suffered serious injuries from the beating was later listed in critical condition.

A police official told the Jordan Times Wednesday that the woman identified one of the assailants as her 29-year-old brother. She said the other were her cousins.

The police official said that the authorities apprehended the assailants a few hours after the incident.

He would not reveal the

Banana crops damaged by inclement weather

SOUTH SHUNEH (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture Wednesday said that five to 10 per cent of banana plantations in the central Jordan valley region were damaged by the high winds and storms which hit the region over the past two days.

Nweiran Kharabsheh, director of agriculture in the area, made the statement during an inspection tour of the area by Acting Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Social Development Mohammad Sqour.

According to Mr. Kharabsheh, farms not protected by trees or wind breakers suffered damage to 20 to 30 per cent of their crops.

He added that the total area planted with banana trees is estimated to be 3,600 dunums.

Mr. Sqour was told that many of the plastic green houses in the area were blown away by the severe winds.

Available water is insufficient to properly irrigate vegetable and fruit crops in the valley, especially during the summer, and this situation has forced the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to resort to water rationing policies.

The speakers said they were concerned that the continuation of the sanctions would endanger the Middle East's security and stability.

In other discussions, the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) representative urged Arab labour unions to coordinate their efforts towards organising the labour markets of the Arab World.

He said such a move was extremely important to creating job opportunities for the increasing number of unemployed labourers in Arab countries.

Referring to ALO help to Arab labour unions, he said it entailed programmes for organising the employment of workers and spreading awareness and education among the labour force.

Labour unionists call for end to sanctions on Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour union officials currently taking part in the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions fourth conference Wednesday appealed to the U.N. Security Council to lift the embargo on Iraq.

In speeches to the meeting which was inaugurated Tuesday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the delegates said that the lifting of the embargo was vital in order to save the lives of Iraqi children, senior citizens and others suffering from food and medicine shortages.

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HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Qadesieh, Yarmouk universities sign protocol

IRBID (Petra) — Teams from the Qadesieh University in Iraq and Yarmouk University in Syria signed a protocol for bilateral cooperation in scientific and cultural fields. The conclusion of the protocol came at the end of a three-day visit to Yarmouk University by a team from Qadesieh University.

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U.K. Conservative leaders seek to play down EU row

BOURNEMOUTH, England (R) — Ruling Conservative Party leaders Wednesday sought to dismiss a row over Europe as the work of an embittered minority and tried to shift the focus of their annual conference onto the British economy.

But the in-fighting, which erupted when former Finance Minister Norman Lamont called for Britain to pull back from the European Union, showed no sign of going away.

The row dominated newspaper front pages. The Times newspaper said Mr. Lamont's call shattered the party's "uneasy truce" on Europe while the right-wing Daily Mail's front page trumpeted: "Lamont delivers Euro bombshell."

Mr. Lamont, in a speech to a fringe meeting Tuesday, warned that moves to a European superstate being forced on Britain by its European partners were poisoning the ruling party.

To loud applause, in stark contrast to the subdued mood of the main conference, Mr. Lamont said Britain made no economic gain from membership of the Union and had to look at its options.

"One day it may mean contemplating withdrawal," he said.

Angry cabinet ministers denounced Mr. Lamont. De-

fence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, interviewed by the BBC, said he could think of no reason for Britain to quit Europe.

"The European Union is enormously important to our security and stability," Mr. Rifkind said.

And Environment Secretary John Gummer told the same BBC Radio programme: "It would be quite impossible for Britain to make such a decision and be able to go on with our policies."

Party managers had hoped to use the conference to regain the political centres ground occupied by opposition Labour leader Tony Blair at his party conference last week.

Mr. Blair stunned the Con-

servatives with a sparkling performance in which he announced plans to cut Labour's link with its Socialist past, which has dogged it through four successive election defeats.

But with an election not due until 1997, party grandees have been urging Mr. Major not to panic, to avoid attacking Mr. Blair directly and to concentrate on a recovering economy delivering the party a fifth election victory.

Unemployment figures announced Wednesday gave the government a boost, showing a further fall of 28,000 in September. Ministers were scheduled Wednesday to calm the party's nerves after registering 44 per cent, and 45 per cent in September.

Fortunes of the ruling Tories, who began their conference Tuesday, have fluctuated from 31 per cent in July to 28 per cent in August, and 33 per cent in September.

Mr. Major was dealt another blow Wednesday when a Conservative member

of parliament, John Blackburn, died of a heart attack.

The death cut Mr. Major's parliamentary majority to just 14 and will force a by-election. Other by-elections in the last two years have dealt them stinging defeats across the country.

Meanwhile, an ICM poll in the *Guardian* Wednesday showed the popularity of Mr. Blair's Labour Party has again risen following his recent conference triumph.

According to the poll, 49 per cent of respondents said they would support Labour, 32 per cent Conservative and a mere 15 per cent the centrist Liberal Democrats.

October's survey results match those for Labour in August, shortly after Mr. Blair was elected opposition leader. In July they registered 44 per cent, and 45 per cent in September.

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But with an election not due until 1997, party grandees have been urging Mr. Major not to panic, to avoid attacking Mr. Blair directly and to concentrate on a recovering economy delivering the party a fifth election victory.

Police arrest supporters of the opposition Pakistan Muslim League (PML) during a general strike called by former premier and opposition leader Nawaz Sharif. Mr. Sharif called for the resignation of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to pave the way for new general elections (AFP photo)

Feud sharpens polarisation in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistan's political divide widened as both sides claimed victory Wednesday in an opposition sponsored general strike which was marked by sporadic violence that left six people dead.

The opposition Pakistan Muslim League (PML) said the strike was a "success" but Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's ruling Pakistan People's Party called it a "flop."

The PML was meeting in Lahore Wednesday to finalise plans for the next phase of its campaign spearheaded by former Premier Nawaz Sharif to topple Ms. Bhutto's year-old government.

"If the government claims the opposition did not succeed in completely paralysing normal life, it does not imply that there isn't any serious challenge to the party in power," it said.

Mr. Sharif had called Tuesday for what was termed a "wheel jam strike" to cripple transport and paralyse commercial and industrial life. He called the strike a "complete success" and said the nationwide protest represented another "referendum" against the government.

"After the historic strike, Bhutto has no justification, moral or political, to stay in power any longer. By now

she should have resigned," he said.

But Ms. Bhutto's ministers and officials, dismissed the strike as a "flop," saying the country had "rejected" agitation politics.

Without going into the impact of the strike, the independent daily *The Nation* termed the ongoing battle an apt manifestation of the country's divided and polarised political scene handed down by the electorate in 1993 general elections.

"It will be difficult for us to keep our workers cool now," he said.

Mr. Sharif claimed police had arrested 20,000 opposition leaders and workers, including national and provincial deputies. The government has denied making such mass arrests.

Mr. Sharif launched his movement to topple the government on Sept. 11, touring the country by train. He called for a nationwide commercial shutdown on Sept. 20 and sponsored rallies and demonstrations on Sept. 29.

Hawke-Keating feud erupts again

CANBERRA (R) — The political bitterness between former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and the man who toppled him from power, Paul Keating, has erupted again, with both accusing each other of lying.

In the latest barrage, Mr. Hawke went on television Wednesday to respond to a claim by Mr. Keating late Tuesday that Mr. Hawke lied in his memoirs about the details of a meeting the two had in 1990 about the Gulf War.

"I'm not going to cop that — now stop it," Paul," Mr. Hawke said in a television interview. "Don't tell lies."

"The record shows that you're lying. Get on with running the country — that's what your job is, not trying to rewrite history," he added.

In an interview with ABC Radio late Tuesday, Mr. Keating launched a blistering attack on Mr. Hawke, as well as the conservative opposition parties, saying Mr.

Clinton woos car workers on campaign swing

DEARBORN, Michigan (R) — Buoyed by public acclaim for his toughness in the Gulf, President Bill Clinton began a political blitzkrieg with tough anti-Republican rhetoric Tuesday in an effort to hold down Democratic losses in next month's elections.

Speaking to workers at a Ford Mustang plant as he started a one-day visit to America's industrial heartland, Mr. Clinton said voters would decide Nov. 8 between going forward or returning to Republican policies of the 1980s that brought "the worst job growth since the great depression."

"No one would want us to go back to the days when we exported jobs, not products. No one would want to go back to the days when our deficit was exploding and our economy was going down hill."

"That is exactly the decision that all of you are going to have to make on Nov. 8 — whether we keep going in the right direction or go back to the 1980s and trickle-down economics," Mr. Clinton said.

Thirty-five Senate seats and all 435 seats in the House of Representatives are being contested in the elections. Thirty-six of the 50 state governors will also be chosen.

Republicans need to pick up 40 seats to take control of the House for the first time since 1954, and win an additional seven seats in the Senate pickup to become the

majority party there for the first time since 1986.

Because the party that controls the White House traditionally loses power in Congress in non-presidential elections, because anti-incumbent fever is running high and because the Democratic president is unpopular, Republicans are expected to make significant gains.

That would make it harder for Mr. Clinton to govern the country and win re-election in 1996.

"I want us to be number one again. I want us to be



Condom Cafe shut down by Filipino authorities

MANILA (AFP) — Municipal authorities in the Philippine financial district of Makati ordered the closure of the controversial "Condom Cafe" just a day after it opened to the public, an official said here Wednesday. Makati administrator Nicomedes Santiago said the cafe, which purports to stimulate discussion about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), was closed because it lacked an "occupancy permit" that is required of any new establishment. But he also admitted that even if such a permit were obtained, Makati officials would still throw up other roadblocks to the cafe's opening such as lack of clearance from the district and the need for a public hearing on the "alleged vulgarity" of the place. The Condom Cafe was set up by ReachOut, an anti-AIDS group which also operates an information centre at the same venue. Makati officials have put up obstacles against its operation, saying it has an offensive name and interior decor. Despite the absence of an official permit, the cafe opened Monday. Local residents however staged a picket protest on the cafe's launch date and threatened to force it out of the district.

Pigeon-lovers home in on Swiss army

BERN (AFP) — Bird-lovers are up in arms over plans by the Swiss army to phase out its carrier-pigeons to save money, threatening to force a national referendum on the issue if the homers are not retained. A specially-formed "committee for an army with carrier-pigeons" issued the ultimatum to the Swiss Defense Department Tuesday. Under Swiss law 50,000 signatures on a petition is sufficient for a referendum to be called. The government said last month it planned to give up its 7,000 pigeons within two years and reassign the 266 men responsible for the 77-year-old service, to save an estimated 600,000 francs (\$450,000). The committee said the savings were not quantifiable, and pointed out that carrier pigeons were still useful.

Woman with double-uterus delivers twins

SAN JOSE, California (R) — A woman with a rare double uterus has given birth to twin girls eight days apart from separate wombs, a hospital spokeswoman said. Cynthia Silveira, 30, gave birth to Hailey, a two-pound, eight-ounce (.90 kg, 226-gram) girl, on Monday at the Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose. She gave birth on Oct. 2 to a two-pound, two-ounce (.90-kg, 560-gram) girl, Hope, said a hospital spokeswoman. The girls, born prematurely, were each conceived in a different uterus, an occurrence experts say is extremely rare. Mrs. Silveira went to a fertility specialist last year because she had been unable to conceive a child, according to local press report. The doctor discovered she had an abnormal "split" uterus. One womb had a normal vaginal opening, while the other was enclosed and its only opening was from the fallopian tube, which transports ova to the uterus. The doctor prescribed medication to stimulate ovulation. Doctors believed it would be impossible for a child to be conceived in the closed uterus. But, after Silveira became pregnant last March, doctors were astonished to find during an ultrasound examination that there were foetuses in both wombs.

British soldier's hand saved by tribal cure

HONG KONG (AFP) — A British soldier's gangrenous hand was miraculously saved during a disastrous expedition in the Malaysian jungle by a tribal witchdoctor's cure, a report here said Wednesday. Sergeant Bob Mann, a 37-year-old commando on a failed expedition to climb down a Malaysian gully, claims in an article in the *South China Morning Post*, that his wounded hand was saved from amputation by a tribal doctor who immersed it in a mysterious potion. "This old lady just grabbed it into a large jar of what I was told was snake flesh, herbs and bones," Sgt. Mann was quoted as saying.

Fujimori to run against his spouse in Peruvian presidential elections

LIMA (R) — The husband-wife battle for the Peruvian presidency became official Tuesday when Susana Higuchi registered her candidacy for a run against her estranged husband President Alberto Fujimori.

Mrs. Higuchi, cool and collected amid pandemonium at the National Electoral Board as the seconds ticked down to the filing deadline, personally handed in the petition signatures and other documents of her Harmony 21st Century Movement.

She showed up just 10 minutes before registration for presidential and vice-

presidential candidates closed.

Mrs. Higuchi had said in mid-September she intended to run for president but it had been unclear whether she would register after her spokesman said tens of thousands of supporters' names were erased from the computer at her movement's headquarters. It was not clear if sabotage was involved in the loss of the names but Peru had suffered a blackout that week.

Mrs. Higuchi's protest in July of an electoral law barring relatives of the president from running for office led to

Magellan begins death dive towards Venus

PASADENA, Calif. (R) — The Magellan spacecraft began its death dive into the superheated atmosphere of Venus Tuesday, the U.S. space agency said.

The space probe will attempt one last experiment before it disintegrates in Venus's atmosphere in a dramatic end to a \$900 million, five-year mission, researchers said.

The probe successfully completed three manoeuvres Tuesday, each one lowering its orbit a few kilometres closer to Venus, Jim Doyle, a

spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said.

The Magellan probe is due to carry out a fourth manoeuvre, and probably a fifth, later Tuesday, putting it in an orbit about 145 kilometres above Venus's surface, Mr. Doyle said.

When the probe reaches its final orbit, scientists aim to carry out one last experiment. They will test how much power it takes to keep the spacecraft stable to

Shuttle Endeavour lands in California

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The space shuttle Endeavour and its six astronauts landed safely in California Tuesday after clouds spoiled their Florida homecoming at the end of an 11-day environmental research mission.

Endeavour touched down under clear skies at 1:02 p.m. EDT (1702 GMT) at Edwards Air Force Base after 183 orbits and a journey of 4.7 million miles (7.6 million km).

"You and your crew have done a great job and made a significant contribution to the mission to planet Earth," mission control's Ken Cockrell told shuttle Commander Michael Baker as Endeavour popped a red, white and blue parachute and rolled to a stop on the Mojave Desert runway.

The trouble-free landing capped a similarly smooth flight in which the crew used a sophisticated radar system to capture the changing face of Earth in digital pictures.

The mission produced a bevy of data — including numerous images of the Klyuchevskaya Volcano on the Kamchatka peninsula, in Russia's far east, which erupted on liftoff day and quickly became one of the prime scientific targets.

The shuttle was scheduled to return to the Kennedy Space Center; where its radar-mapping odyssey began on Sept. 30. NASA opted for a 3,000-mile (4,800 km) detour because the Florida runway was obscured by thickening clouds when the shuttle was to begin its 55-

gather data on how spacecraft react to a very thin atmosphere, Mr. Doyle said.

After a day or so in its final orbit, the Magellan probe is expected to be pulled gradually closer to Venus and finally be torn apart by the intense heat.

"When it comes down, all we'll know is that the radio went silent and probably disintegrated," Mr. Doyle said. He said the probe will probably melt or boil rather than burst into flames as it descends.

What comes down, all we'll know is that the radio went silent and probably disintegrated," Mr. Doyle said. He said the probe will probably melt or boil rather than burst into flames as it descends.

It was the second flight of the laboratory since April, and the first for Endeavour's October mission to detect sea-level man-made changes that took place during two radar and air pollution monitor.

U.S. President Bill Clinton speaks to workers at the Ford Dearborn assembly after a tour of the plant in Michigan. President Clinton came to Michigan to give his support to Michigan's Democratic Senate candidates (AFP photo)



U.S. President Bill Clinton speaks to workers at the Ford Dearborn assembly after a tour of the plant in Michigan. President Clinton came to Michigan to give his support to Michigan's Democratic Senate candidates (AFP photo)

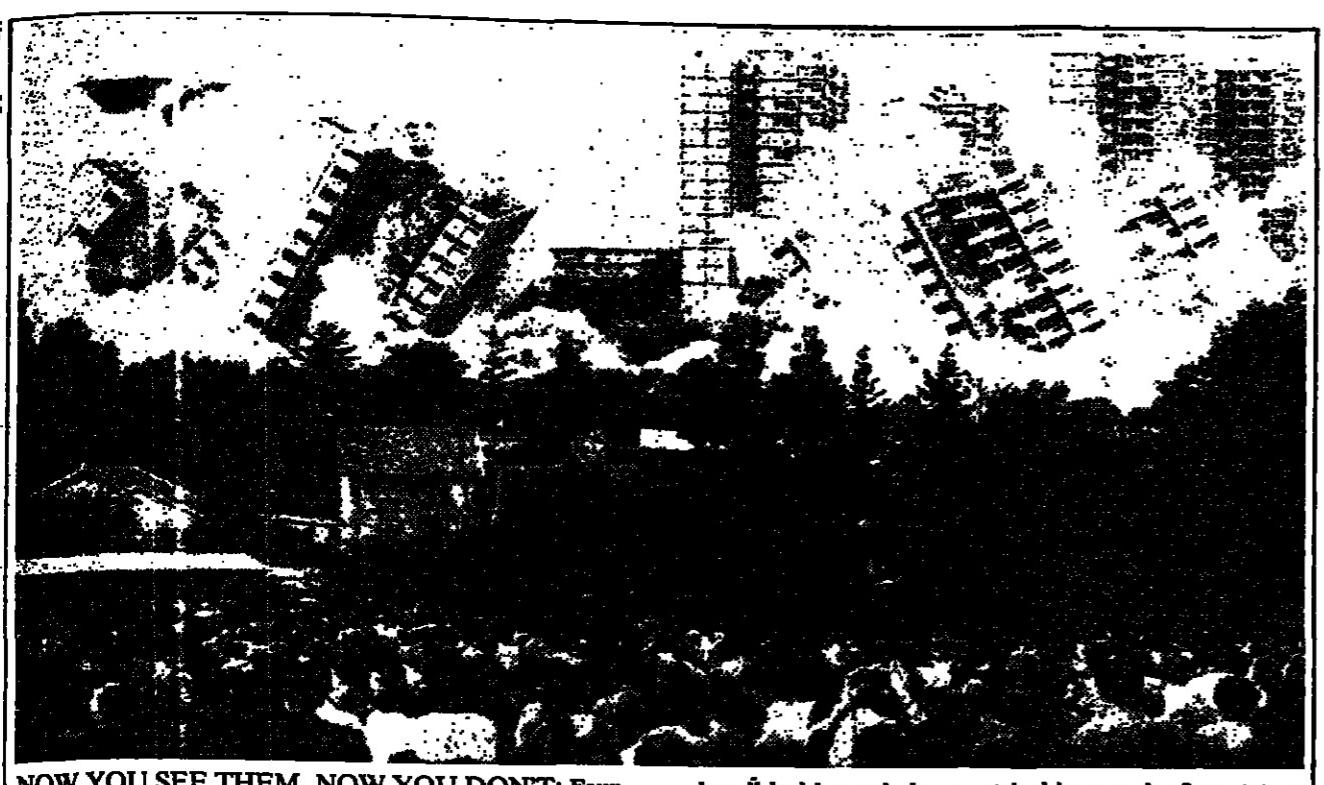
In his speech, Mr. Clinton said he sympathised with voter anger. But he urged Americans not just to think of their discontent with the system.

Praising the U.S. car industry for bouncing back to a position of world pre-eminence, Mr. Clinton continued: "I want to say to you that the fight you have fought is the fight I am fighting for America."

"I want us to be number one again. I want us to be

World News

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13-14, 1994 5



NOW YOU SEE THEM, NOW YOU DON'T: Four tower blocks at Vénissieux, a suburb of Lyons, France, are

demolished by explosives, watched by crowds of spectators (AFP photo)

NATO to brief U.N. on Bosnia air strikes

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — NATO will send envoys to the United Nations within the next few days to underscore its determination that the decision-making process before air strikes in Bosnia must be improved, a diplomat said Wednesday.

The statement came after a senior U.N. official said that the United Nations wanted NATO airpower in Bosnia to be more efficient but had qualms about giving it a freer hand to respond to attacks by the Bosnian Serbs.

The U.N. official said the NATO delegation was expected in New York Thursday or Friday to pursue discussions on the issue that was first raised in a letter sent Friday to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali.

The delegation will be headed by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) Deputy Secretary General Anthony Cragg, according to officials in Brussels.

NATO will "firmly" make its point during the New York talks, the diplomat said.

Dr. Ghali has asked to be represented by Kofi Annan, head of the U.N. Department for Peacekeeping Operations, who is currently in Europe.

French General Bertrand de Lapresle, commander of the U.N. Protection Force in the former Yugoslavia, will attend the talks at which the U.N. was expected to make a counterproposal.

Commenting on ongoing negotiations with NATO, the official said in New York the world body was in principle opposed to NATO's request to call strikes against multiple targets without giving advance warnings to the warring factions on the ground.

But the diplomat here said the United Nations had "not officially or unofficially taken position" on NATO's request.

Dr. Ghali has written NATO saying its request for a free hand in Bosnia was giving him problems, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

Any NATO air strike must be linked to a specific violation, and both the U.N. and NATO must previously agree.



Unarmed French and Egyptian U.N. soldiers take turns riding the tram in Sarajevo as a deterrent to snipers when the trams resumed operation. The trams began operating again Wednesday after an incident on Saturday in which 1 person was killed and 11 wounded by snipers (AFP photo).

Kagame: Former Rwandan troops being rehabilitated

KIGALI (AFP) — Officers and soldiers of the former Rwandan army who have returned to their country are undergoing a "political education" by the country's new government, Defence Minister and Deputy President Paul Kagame said Wednesday.

Gen. Kagame, speaking during a press conference, also rejected recent accusations by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that soldiers from the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) have massacred thousands of Hutus since July.

Gen. Kagame, speaking during a press conference, also rejected recent accusations by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that soldiers from the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) have massacred thousands of Hutus since July.

He said the UNHCR was spreading "outrageous and irresponsible" rumours that have kept refugees from returning to the country while, he added, the UNHCR continues receiving funds for their care in refugee camps in neighbouring countries.

"Maybe it (UNHCR) doesn't get money if it doesn't have refugees," he said.

Speaking about the rehabilitation of the former soldiers into the ranks of the new Patriotic Rwandan Army (PRA), and offshoot of the RPF, Gen. Kagame said they were attending seminars aimed at giving them a political education they lacked.

"We want to give them a political education and later on we will integrate them," he said. "There was a lack of that on the part of the former

army."

"I don't want to be pessimistic," he said.

Government forces and that's why they participated in killing innocent civilians."

He said the Hutu soldiers are numerous and are housed in military camps that are "not refugee camps nor prisons."

Gen. Kagame added that the new government aims to maintain a strong army even though there is no money to fund such a force and soldiers have not been paid in four years.

"We can afford it," he said. "We have maintained a strong army, even though there is no money to fund such a force and soldiers have not been paid in four years."

"We can afford it," he said. "We have maintained an unpaid army for the last four years and we can hang on for another four years because our soldiers know what they fought for."

He added that he was disappointed with the lack of international financial assistance since the end of the inter-ethnic conflict that claimed the lives of up to one million of the country's 7.9 million pre-war population.

"There is no money... but we are here to stay," he said.

As to relations with France, which has been accused of backing the former Hutu-led government, Gen. Kagame said he hopes "to overcome the past" and "normalise" relations.

"I don't want to be pessimistic," he said.

China may be developing new nuclear weapons — IISS

LONDON (R) — China, which conducted another nuclear test last week despite a moratorium agreed by other big powers, may be developing new nuclear weapons, a leading international institute said Wednesday.

The test was China's third in the area of Doboj, where more than 350 artillery rounds were exchanged Tuesday between government Zavidovici also came under artillery fire. No casualties were reported.

Maj. Gourmelon also said some 300 artillery impacts were registered in the southwestern Mostar, mostly fired from the Bosnian Serb side.

On Monday, Bosnian deputy commander Gen. Jovan Divjak had claimed that Bosnian Serb forces launched an offensive in the Cemerske Kili in the same area in an attempt to cut off the main supply road to northern Bosnia.

Fighting also was reported in the area of Doboj, where more than 350 artillery rounds were exchanged Tuesday between government

Zavidovici also came under artillery fire. No casualties were reported.

Maj. Gourmelon also said some 300 artillery impacts were registered in the southwestern Mostar, mostly fired from the Bosnian Serb side.

The report said "no combat formations, including airborne and the divisions earmarked for peacekeeping, have more than 75 per cent of their authorised strength and roughly 70 per cent divisions have less than 50 per cent."

Soviet Armed Forces traditionally kept some units under full strength and depended on reservists to fill the ranks in times of crisis, but not to the extent now prevalent in Russia.

The IISS report — which details military strength around the world — also said the Russian Navy, with major bases around Murmansk and in Vladivostok, was in trouble.

"A number of naval ships have been retired in the last 12 months and the operational serviceability of others must be in doubt," it said.

In the past year, it added, Russia had retired from service 25 tactical submarines, nine surface combat ships, 20 patrol craft and 20 mine countermeasure vessels.

The IISS said it was difficult to establish reliable figures for Russian defence

spending, partly because some items were hidden in other areas of the national budget.

But it estimated the defence budget at \$78 million this year and added: "The Russian defence budget has declined in real terms by over 40 per cent compared to the 1989 Soviet budget."

The decline was partly due to the breakup of the Soviet Union, which stripped revenue from Russia.

Despite the decline of the armed forces, the IISS said Russia remained a formidable military power.

In any global comparison, Russian military expenditure remains in real terms substantially higher than that of any country apart from the USA," it said.

U.S. defence policy over the past 12 months has been characterised by "change and uncertainty" engendered by retirement and resignation at the very top of the military command, according to the report.

The IISS noted the retirement of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin Powell and the "forced retirement" of Secretary of Defense Les Aspin.

Those key personnel changes, it said, followed publication of the so-called "Bottom-Up Review," of which Mr. Aspin's successor William Perry was a primary formulator.

The review, which calls for cuts in all armed services except the Marine Corps by 1999, is based, says the IISS, on "the assessment that the U.S. must be capable of fighting and winning two nearly simultaneous major regional conflicts," for example, another Gulf War and a Korean War at the same time.

The theory is not, said the report, that "two such conflicts are expected to erupt simultaneously, but because, should the U.S. embark on one conflict, it must have sufficient force available to

achieve Bosnian Serb acceptance of the peace plan, then the lifting of the arms embargo to allow the arming of the Bosnian government will be difficult to avoid despite the reservations held by a number of U.N. troops contributors."

Under a conventional force reduction, said the IISS, the U.S. Atlantic Command (USLANTCOM), originally a purely naval command, has been re-established as a Joint Service Command with the new acronym USACOM and with greatly increased responsibilities.

Principal victims of the bottom-up cuts, said the IISS, will be "two active and one reserve army division, three active and four reserve air force wings, 55 surface ships and submarines, one aircraft carrier and one active and one reserve naval air wing."

"Procurement projects cancelled included the Advanced Fighter Experimental (A/FX), the Multi-Role fighter, and the production F-16 aircraft after 1994 and the FA-18CD naval aircraft after 1997," it said.

Despite \$107 billion in savings from bottom-up cuts vis-a-vis what the previous Republican administration had wanted to spend, defence will still cost \$13 billion more than the current administration had planned through 1999, said the IISS. Total defence expenditure 1995-99 is planned at \$1.23 trillion, said the report.

Conflicts continue in Europe

Civil conflicts continue to wrack Europe in the wake of the break-up of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, the IISS said.

On the three-way struggle in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the IISS said the "most remarkable developments" were the establishment of a U.N.-police heavy weapons exclusion-zone around Sarajevo and the accord between Croats and Muslims on a federation.

"India's internal situation has shown a marked improvement over the last 12 months," said the IISS.

"Despite the continuing strife in Kashmir, the Indian army's presence there has been reduced and the plan to increase the strength of the paramilitary 'Rashtriya' or national rifles... will allow further withdrawals."

"India continues to accuse Pakistan of interfering in its internal affairs, particularly

nine between 1.5 and 2.0 per cent in the west."

With less than one-fifth of the population in the east, the PDS would need 20 per cent in the east and one per cent in the west to surpass the five per cent hurdle.

Meanwhile Klaus Kinkel approaches the general election a worried man. Foreign minister and president of the Free Democrats (FDP), he can expect to lose both posts if his party flops as it has in regional elections over the last year.

Mr. Kinkel has been president of the FDP since June 1993, having joined the little liberal party only in February 1991, although he had long been close to the liberals.

He has been foreign minister in the centre-right coalition led by Chancellor Kohl and the Christian Union parties since April 1992, taking over from the veteran minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the former FDP leader whose mantle he effectively inherited after serving Mr. Genscher as an advisor since 1970.

A keen tennis player looking considerably younger than his 57 years, Mr. Kinkel has been an energetic and effective foreign minister, advancing the united Germany's diplomacy in Europe and the world with logic and purpose and in accordance with Western interests.

But it is part of his bad luck that Germany's presidency of the European Union, which has kept him especially busy since July, coincides with a difficult election campaign for the FDP.

In a separate development, under Rudolf Scharping, the Social Democrats have regained credibility as a party of government, but observers still doubt his leadership is sufficiently inspired to make him the next chancellor.

What Scharping has going for him, however, is perseverance and pragmatism.

"This government has nothing to fear from justice," Mr. Berlusconi said.

A senior member of Mr. Berlusconi's government said Wednesday in a published interview that he believed Mr. Berlusconi would sell all or part of his media-based Fininvest group.

But it "will be his own choice," said Defence Minister Cesare Previti. Mr. Berlusconi's former lawyer, in the interview with the daily Corriere Della Sera. He said the issue was not one which could be resolved quickly.

by supplying arms and funding foreign mercenaries in Kashmir," said the report. "Pakistan denies the charges, but continues to advocate Kashmiri self-determination."

Violence has "virtually ended" in Punjab, it said, although the political situation "is far from stable."

In Northeastern Sri Lanka, the guerrilla war being waged by Tamil rebels "shows no sign of ending, with both sides continuing to suffer heavy casualties."

White Burma remains under military rule and the opposition leader, Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, remains under house arrest, most of the insurgency campaigns active for 30 years appeared to be dwindling, said the report.

The key remaining insurgency groups, Shan Mong Tasi Army in the north and the Karen and Mon groups in the southeast, "no longer have to battle with the government and have turned their attention with great success to the drug trade," it said.

The IISS also cites a "rapprochement" between Burma and China which "had led Burma's air force to acquire significant numbers of Chinese aircraft."

Africans killed each other in large numbers with relatively primitive weapons over the past year, the IISS said, noting that seven of the world's 30 civil conflicts were raging on the continent.

"Few major new weapons systems have been acquired by African states, but when killing is usually accomplished by machine-gun, hand grenade and machete, this is little consolation," the IISS said.

These ranged from the massacres of hundreds of thousands in Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi, to the nearly 20-year-old war in Angola, along with Somalia and Sudan, and the less intense conflict in Djibouti.

Poll: Kohl's coalition will win

BONN (Agencies) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition will be narrowly re-elected Sunday, according to a poll published Wednesday by the leading Allensbach Institute.

The poll gave Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats 42 per cent of the vote and 8 per cent to his junior coalition partners, the Free Democrats. It cited no margin of error but this is generally taken to be about 3 per cent.

Polls since the summer have shown growing support for Mr. Kohl's coalition as undecided voters choose the chancellor and his allies, but Wednesday's poll was one of the few putting the coalition's total at 50 per cent or more.

Only one recent poll has shown the Free Democrats scoring under 5 per cent, the threshold they need to cross to enter parliament.

Should the Free Democrats score under 5 per cent, Mr. Kohl probably would be ousted, either by a left-wing coalition of the Social Democrats and Alliance 90/The Greens, or by the formation of a so-called grand coalition of his Christian Democrats

and the Social Democrats. Mr. Kohl has shown no interest in leading such a coalition.

The Allensbach poll showed 3.9 per cent support for the former East German communists of the Party of Democratic Socialism or PDS, down from 4.5 per cent in last week's poll.

The poll gave 34.9 per cent to the Social Democrats and 8.1 per cent to the Greens.

The PDS has a strong chance to return to the Bonn parliament after Sunday's general election and could come back with up to 30 deputies, opinion pollsters said on Wednesday.

But two of the three seats in East Berlin that the party of Democratic Socialism must win to ensure its return are too close to call, they told Reuters.

The balance of power in Bonn could depend on whether the PDS wins the three seats and qualifies for a loophole that would let them claim over two dozen seats.

PDS prospects have become a key focus of attention in the campaign because a strong showing could end up

blocking Chancellor Kohl from winning another absolute majority.

"My theory is that they won't get the five per cent, but I assume they will win at least three constituencies," said Torsten Schneider-Haase of the Ennig Poling Institute.

Like the other pollsters, he added: "The race for the PDS is too close to call."

Several recent surveys saw Mr. Kohl's coalition just short of an absolute majority but others gave him an absolute majority.

Schneider-Haase and Richard Hilmer of Infratest Berlin GmbH said the PDS has been polling a steady 4.4 to 4.5 per cent support nationwide in recent weeks.

PDS support has hovered between 17 and 20 per cent in the east, where the so-called "losers of unity" have rallied behind the party they believe best represents the region's interests.

The party has been stuck between 0.5 and 1.0 per cent in the more populous west, they said. PDS leaders had earlier been counting on wins

between 1.5 and 2.0 per cent in the west.

With less than one-fifth of the population in the east, the PDS would need 20 per cent in the east and one per cent in the west to surpass the five per cent hurdle.

Weekender

Oct. 13, 1994

Published Every Thursday

Creativity — a key to development of cultural, artistic life

By Mohammad Mashriqa

A cultural week organised at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation has focused attention on a host of issues and ideas closely related to the cultural movement in Amman.

Held under the motto: Jerusalem Remembered Through Artistic Creativity, the event presented Kamal Bullata's art exhibition and lecture depicting the Arab cultural patrimony in Andalusia and its link with the artistic infrastructure found in the paintings of four artists from Jerusalem.

The event also included a week-long art exhibition by Jerusalem artist Vladimir Tamari who has been living in Tokyo over the past 25 years, as well as an Andalusian music concert presented by the Algerian Wahran Group.

A keen observer can easily detect the link binding these different artistic activities: The artistic geometrical technique depicted in Bullata's paintings, which follow a sequence with its roots deeply embedded in Arab-Islamic Egypt of Palestine, is the same that was followed by the Arab Andalusian artists, who created arabesque inscriptions; and which gives the beholder absolute delight.

It is to be noted that an artist, from Andalusia or Jerusalem living in the diaspora, appears to be torn between two memories... two worlds... always remembering his/her living in exile. As such, the artist

is neither in harmony with his new homeland nor is he completely disengaged and free from his original native land.

In his lecture, Bullata reviewed the paintings of the four Jerusalemita artists. These works represent a visual delusion by virtue of the presence of similar spaces in colour spread over the face of the paintings. A viewer can see various artistic elements interacting and intermingling, reflecting "self cleavage" and visual diversion. The image clearly represents the exiled person's situation — his past and his present.

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

It was a clever move on the part of Bullata who presented his exhibition along with poetry by Moroccan poet Mohammed Bennis and with music especially composed in harmony with the art works.

By presenting poetry, music and paintings, the Darat Al Funun clearly reflected the Palestinian origin in a "mathematical series" thus providing the guests with a rare taste of deep aesthetic, cultural and artistic nature.

It goes without saying that presentation of the concept of exile and expatriation from Andalusia to Jerusalem, Washington, New York or Tokyo in an artistic manner through paintings, music or film is a genuine creative work of art for which Darat Al

Funun takes credit. Let us hope that such technique would serve as a pioneering example to be followed by others, because it ushers in a new phase in the Jordanian artistic and cultural movement.

Galleries and cultural centres have been in the practice of offering quite a big volume of monthly programmes at the expense of quality. It is not an exaggeration to say that a great deal of these activities lack creativity and innovation. The artist and intellectual organiser can develop and enrich programmes suggested to him. For example, he can select an integrated topic to present to the public for a week or a month from different perspectives... artistic, musical, literary or architectural. In this sense, the organiser can offer his audience a nourishing and comprehensive cultural "meal." By following this technique, the organiser can transform quantity into highly-rated and unique quality, following the example of Darat Al Funun in the past week.

In response to possible remarks from some of our intellectuals that such technique could require considerable funds, I can say that this technique, which focuses on creativity and innovation, does not require huge funds but rather a flexible and cultured mentality and people capable of assuming responsibility for the change.

Indeed, it only takes someone to express desire for and show intent to bring about change and build on

other people's works to achieve that end.

Such tendency can open the door wide for novel ideas and can serve as an incentive for further research and study towards constant development and improvement — qualities vitally needed by the successful organisers.

Since its establishment at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation, Darat Al Funun has adopted this line of activity, specialising in it within the framework of cultural pluralism which is a true reflection of the society.

Numerous cultural and artistic centres emerged in Amman in the past four years, but they were mostly similar to one another in terms of their programmes. This calls for some reflection on the need for coordination and specialisation, or development of programmes which must not remain confined to the concept of mere presentation but rather towards creating joy and pleasure in the minds of people.

A gallery can be transformed into lecture hall or a theatre for a documentary film or slide-show, focusing attention on artists' works and their different artistic schools. A gallery could also become an experimental "laboratory" testing the work of theatre groups or musicians, or venue where ideas can be developed and skills refined.

This is how development of artistic and cultural life can best be achieved in Jordan.

Spanish flair — castanets, guitars and culinary feats

Spanish Cultural and Gastronomical Week opens Monday

By Jennifer Hamarneh

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The sounds, Spanish Cultural and Gastronomical Week.

This year's event begins with two guitarists who are said not to perform their music — they live it.

Described as "a premature genius of flamenco," 27-year-old Vicente Ami-

go is billed to present electrifying performances of flamenco guitar, including some of his original works.

Amigo is an award-winning musician who has been compared with other guitar greats Pat Metheny and John McLaughlin.

His playing, which blends flamenco with touches of jazz, is influenced by flamenco maestros Manolo Sanlucar, Paco de Lucia, Enrique Morente, Juan Habichuela and Morato Chico.

He will be accompanied in his performances in Amman by supporting guitars, a vocalist and a dancer.

A disciple of the great Spanish masters of classical guitar, Jose Maria Gallego Del Rey is said to be one of the most promising musicians of his genre.

As a concert player and composer, Gallego has performed in his native Spain and abroad.

He is the composer of the official music for the Spanish Pavilion at Expo '92 which was hosted by Spain.

Well known for his virtuosity and highly sophisticated technique, Gallego's repertoire is vast and varied, ranging from Baroque concerts of

Archangelo Corelli to the modern, classic music of Manuel de Falla.

The classical master will also share with his audience his own "fresh" compositions.

Also in store, is an experience of modern Spanish theatre. And, not to worry about any language barrier, the performances speak the international language of mime.

A group of seven young artists make up the theatre group known as Yllana, whose comedic mime has raised the roofs of many a theatre, cafe and festival with torrents of laughter.

The group's play, MUU!, a parody on the Spanish "sport" of bullfighting, won the "Courage d'Or" award for best foreign comedy at the 1993 Toulouse International Comedy Festival.

Yllana will perform for three nights.

The Spanish say, "Quien no ha visto Sevilla no ha visto maravilla" (he who has not seen Seville has not seen a marvel).

But Spanish Cultural Week will bring this Andalusian city here to Amman in the form of "Ciudad de Sevilla," a 17-member flamenco dance group which has performed for Their Majesties King Hussein and

Muhammad Tahboub

Ramon Roteta, proprietor and chef of Roteta Restaurant in the town of Fuenterrabia near San Sebastian.

Queen Noor, and at the Jarash Festival of Culture and Arts.

Their culturally varied

performances include the bolero, flamenco and classical dance.

From traditional Spain to pop Spain, modernity has catapulted this large European nation into the 21st century.

No finer example is Danza Invisible, one of the most acclaimed pop-rock groups in Spain.

The group was formed in 1982. Its young musicians combine reggae, Afro-Latin and dance soul, as well as rhythm and blues and ballads.

According to sources at the Spanish embassy, getting them to Jordan was made easier because they have a few friends on the embassy staff.

And now for the gourmets, would-be gourmets and just anyone else who loves to eat, three of Spain's master chefs will work their magic in preparing seven dinners at the Forte Grand Hotel. In the cocinas (kitchens) will be:

Juan Ignacio Zubia, proprietor and chef of Madrid's Lur Maitea Restaurant, said to be where the king, the politicians, the artists and the admirers of exquisite cuisine meet.

Currito, proprietor and chef of Currito Restaurant, described as a bastion of traditional Basque and Spanish cuisine in Madrid.

Also starting on Oct. 17

is an exhibition of modern Spanish art displaying the works of an illustrious



Yllana in action

group of contemporary artists including Juan Bordes, Eusebio Sempere and Antoni Saura.

According to Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Juan Manuel Cabrera, Spanish Cultural Week, which is being inaugurated under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, "is a good opportunity for the people here to obtain a general understanding of and actually experience the rich and varied culture

of Spain."

The events, which will be held at the Forte Grand Hotel, the Royal Cultural Centre and the Palace of Culture of Al Hussein Sports City are made possible through the cooperation of Royal Jordanian and the Forte Grand Hotel.

All proceeds from the events of the Spanish Cultural Week will go to development projects in the Kingdom.

* The Jordan Times freelance reporter, Rana Husseini, contributed to this article.

An attempt in the right direction

Selected Poems of Pak Mogwol

famous Korean Poet (1916-1978)

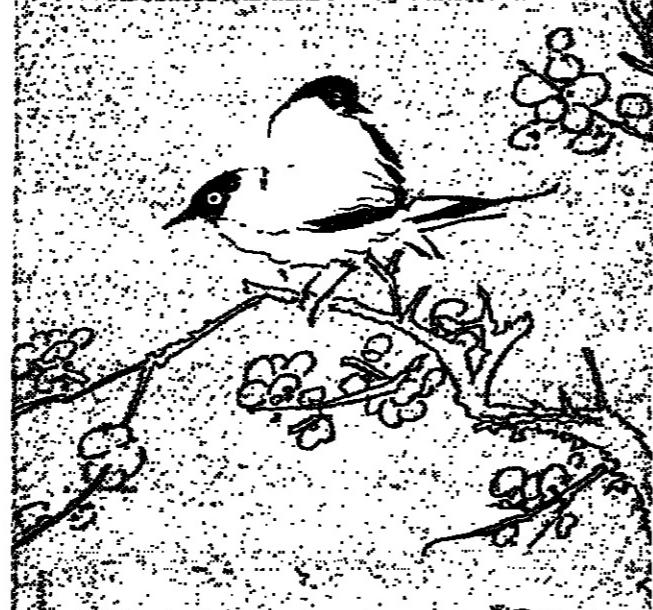
Asian Humanities Press, UNESCO

It is known fact that the Far Eastern literature are veritable known in our country, indeed in all Arab countries partly because there had been no historic or cultural links between the two nations due to the far geographic distances and partly because this region suffered Western colonialism and neo-colonialism long and so got deeply affected by its cultures. Therefore translation movement from English, French, Italian and German has never stopped since last century. It was and still is a very busy movement which helped create a great appreciation of and liking those literature and at the same time impeded our people from having the opportunity to look into the literatures of other nations — rich though they may be. Our area knows almost nothing about say Asian or African cultures and this could be considered a shortcoming because intercommunication between nations of the globe is made very easy in the modern world and it is the duty of cultural institutions in each country to take the bold step of acquainting its people with other literature. For cultural exchange surely enriches human heritage and knowledge and helps establish friendly contacts between different peoples which will eventually lead to mutual respect and understanding and thus to a better world.

As a start and for the previously mentioned objective this review is a humble, and hopefully successful, attempt in the right direction. The book under review is a collection of poems by one of the most famous modern Korean poets whose name is absolutely unknown in our society because Korean literature is almost totally obscure to our readers

SELECTED POEMS OF PAK MOGWOL

introduced and Translated by Uchang Kim



although it has its distinctive qualities stemming from its old culture. Before we identify our readers with the said poet it would be valuable to point out the

striking features of Korean literature. The beauty and charming landscape, the simple country life, the Korean War, the hard post-war period and the subsequent modernisation and industrialisation which led to prosperity, are the main elements that shape this literature. The Korean poetry is romantic in essence. It spindles around the idealisation of nature. It can be the sentimental reflection of the "haunting images of mist, cloud, shadow, moonlight and the music of flowing streams that soften and mystify nature." It is also the "peace of an idyllic landscape." In his early period, poet Pak Mogwol's poems were of a purely romantic kind. He depicted his images from nature which is the main source of romantic images. Born in Kyongju, a small town in the country he could easily pick up natural images and use them in his poems with sweet, melodic language. He had the ability to see with his penetrating eye the minute things in nature and give a lovely description that captivates imagination.

Half a day on scented grass peaks
A sleek female deer
Comes solitarily to the hollow
In the village of a lower slope
Wets her throat
In the running stream,
Washes her eyes
In the running cloud,
And looks at the pale moon
Floating in the sky

But he developed with age as he faced and suffered the harsh reality of city life and the difficulty of earning bread for his family in a materialistic community. Thus his poems got more and more of a

philosophical wisdom which made him one of the most important poets of modern Korea.

Every man gathers his ears

Half-and-half to listen
To the other world

To the distant sound of the perished,
The sound of their footsteps,

While the world is that of April,

April's early one third.

With this philosophical wisdom we touch a sense of desolation and shades of depression.

On a night like this,
Life is full of holes,
Like a porous turnip hollowed by winds.

All the same "nature was his guiding principle" because "the ideal of simple life was cultivated in spirit, through the memories of his native place and through the symbols of peace he could find in nature." The poet resorts to intensifying his ideas and images in short poems sometimes in two or three verses. He rarely wrote long poems — a trend that is acquiring a mounting importance in modern poetry as a whole.

Sound of water in the night valley.
Lamps lighted and carried by clouds.
A mountain peak floating in purple
Light down to the Eastern Sea

The book is adorned with a fine introduction by Kim Uchang who teaches English in Korea. Extracts quoted between brackets are from his introduction.

Muhammad Daoud Tahboub

You name it

By Jean-Claude Elias

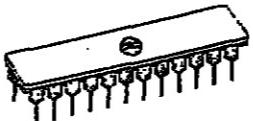
Just like one has to give a newborn baby a name, each time a PC (personal computer) user creates a file, he or she must give it a name in order to save it on disk for future use. The difference is that one is expected to have only a few children — check the recent U.N. conference on population — while a person making a regular use of a PC may have hundreds or even thousands of files to store and manipulate.

The computer illiterates have become an endangered species, so let us, just for the few of them, briefly explain the rules for assigning names to computer files. The name can only contain alphabet letters, numbers and two or three special characters (question marks, underscores and the star sign). Comas, colons, semi-colons, the dollar sign, dashes, and so on, are not allowed. Neither are spaces. The length of the name is limited to a maximum of EIGHT letters or characters. In addition, and according to obvious logic, one cannot have two files with the same name and in the same disk directory (a logic, software subdivision of a disk).

The problem is to be able to find a file or, worse, remember its name, among a few hundreds of them, a few weeks or months after having created it. The earlier DOS and Windows versions of these time-honoured operating systems did not offer the user any significant assistance to help him locate a file on disk. Fortunately the new releases feature easy to use functions that can instantly track a "lost" file, provided its name, or part of it at least, is known. When you do not however remember at all the name of this precious file you created last year, you're left with one option — to browse through long lists, opening each suspected file, until the wanted one is found. Recalling what application software, or programme, was used to create the file can certainly alleviate the pain by shortening the process.

If for instance you are searching for a document created using MS-Word, starting the programme and browsing through the list that contains only MS-

chip talk



Word document will definitely make the search faster.

The best step one can take to avoid misplacing files is to adopt a structured naming method. Computer professionals are very familiar with such a procedure. Give files names that are meaningful. Avoid using only numbers. A first letter to Nabil can be named "NABIL," a second one "NABIL2" and so on.

Files created with the same programme should be grouped together in a separate directory. Eventual searches would be simplified.

Beyond the simple purpose of easy files retrieval, assigning names according to a method makes copying, deleting and moving groups of files easier as well.

PC users rightfully complain about the file names "eight-characters-length-limit" that DOS and Windows impose. Actually one can use what is called an extension to the name, consisting of up to three characters following the first eight characters part. Although it certainly helps bring some flexibility to the system, this extension is not always a user decision but is rather automatically generated by the application programmes.

Other operating systems, like OS/2 for example, have crossed the "eight characters-length-limit," allowing for longer names. The next Windows 4.0 is also supposed to offer the possibility of entering long file names. For PC lovers it will be like sunshine after the rain — or like rain after a hot summer, this depending on where one lives.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaib

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

■ During the 12th century Icelandic law admitted only two climatic seasons, namely, summer which started on Thursday, the third of April and winter on Thursday, the third of October.

★ ★ ★ ★

■ The lock of a car was frozen due to frost in England. Though the owner used his lips to melt the ice and open the door, they had, in turn been frozen and stuck to the lock until he was saved by a passing traffic policeman.

★ ★ ★ ★

■ In the thirteenth century the Mongol kings used to erect towers made of concrete with windows where the captives' heads were placed to be shown to the people.

★ ★ ★ ★

■ An American invented a station operated by a computer. It was equipped with a pedal, unmoving bicycle and a small number of escalators that would help the operator keep physically and mentally fit for long hours.

★ ★ ★ ★

■ A Canadian painter uses 18 colours of shoe varnishes to paint his pictures.

★ ★ ★ ★

■ Having decided to invade Rome in the third century B.C., Hannibal, the famous leader, resorted to using vinegar and fire to push his way across the snow-covered Alps in an attempt to reach his goal.

★ ★ ★ ★

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

Luggage	Al-amti'a
Arrivals	Riblat al-wosool
Departures	Riblat al-maghadara
Police	Al-shurta
Lounge	Al-istiraha
Passports	Al-Jawazat
Exit	Al-khurooj
Entrance	Al-dukhoor
Post office	Al-asbirroom
Flights	Xalaya tizkareya
Customs	Ar-riblat
Foreigners	Al-jamariik
Prohibited	Al-qanib
Refreshments	Mamnoon
Gate No. 5.	Mon'ishat
Rent-a-car	Bawwaba raqam khamsa
Bookshop	Sayyarat il-ofra
Duty free shop	Maktaba
Lost property office	Al-souk al-hurra
Airport terminal	Maktab al-mafkoodat
Airline offices	Mujamma al-matur
Information desk	Maktab sharikat at-tayuran
	Maktab al-isti'lamat

TIME FOR FUN

★ MOTHER: Eat your spinach, it'll put colour in your cheeks.

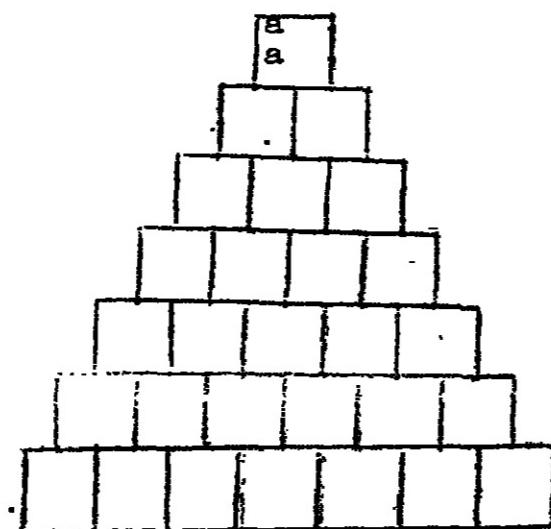
DAUGHTER: Who wants green cheeks.

PUZZLES

PYRAMID

Solve the clues to complete the pyramid. Each word is an anagram of the word above it.

1. Phosphorous
2. A river
3. Apex
4. Stain
5. Design to do
6. Brings in
7. Sea creature



Towards a new sensibility

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaaen

In the act of building, material necessities naturally give rise to recurring architectural models such as the tower, the bridge, or the labyrinth of identifiable formal structures, where each one is associated with a process of building and to human activity. The hierarchy implied by the tower and that involved in its construction represent two fundamental, yet intrinsically opposed modes of social organisation.

The tower has asserted itself as an important form in secular culture where height was synonymous with physical advantage and invincibility. Before airplanes, missiles, and nuclear weapons were used by military powers, towers assured might and right. The juxtaposition of the seductive qualities of height, and the inescapable necessities of construction gave the tower its ability to evoke essential and timeless spiritual conflicts.

With height comes the ability to look back down at the surface of the Earth. With height comes the ability to communicate with others unimpeded by whatever is on earth's surface. Yet the view from the summit is not autonomous, but is conditioned by the nature of the journey up; the various views obtained through the Eiffel Tower's lattice-work of iron allow for unique, private visions as well as for contemplation about the layers of Paris unfolding below.

There is also the matter of the conflict between the form of the tower, the intellectually conceived ideal structure, and the shape of the tower that relates to a process of building and to human activity. The hierarchy implied by the tower and that involved in its construction represent two fundamental, yet intrinsically opposed modes of social organisation.

The specific shape of the tower is seen as antithetical to the attainment of ideal form, an aesthetic that is based on a superimposition of geometry on natural material, the stones that make up the tower. The form of the Tower of Babel, hughly conceived as an unfinished pyramid or a truncated cone, reflected the diagrammatic nature of the organisation that created it; an apex of ascending tiers with an unattainable individual at the top. So, while the form of the Tower of Babel could be described as similar to that of a pyramid, its shape was a function of the people who made and inhabited it. The unfeared mass of the tower was made to accommodate the needs of human activity through the introduction of doors, windows, and interior rooms.

A tower's yielding to human need is necessary for its completion.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Oct. 13

7:30 Road To Avonlea

Refusing to give in to despair, Sarah and Gasper raise money to buy new books. But after a fire destroys part of the library, both look for a way out.

8:30 My Secret Identity

Competition between good and bad the theme of a school play.

9:10 Snowy River

Stepping Out

A fierce row between Duke and his uncle erupts over his claims over his father's land.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — One Of Her Own

Starring: Lori Loughlin and Greg Evigan

A policewoman speaks out about a fellow policeman who rapes her. He has the entire police force behind him; she has the deputy district attorney.

11:50 Never The Twain

Simon and Oliver plan separate vacations. Somehow, they find themselves sharing one single room in a hotel.

Friday, Oct. 14

7:30 African Skies

8:30 Movies, Games And Videos

9:10 Tequila And Bonneti

Tale Of The Dragon

A clairvoyant warns Bonneti of a crime. Believing her, he and his dog Tequila try to be where the crime is going to take place.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emilie

Emilie celebrates her birthday and the return of her husband.

11:00 Coming Of Age

A new subject on the agenda is electing a new administrative committee.

Saturday, Oct. 15

8:30 Bob

Bob meets someone who's actually a man but with the soul and character of a dog.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

The Prodigal Father

A mystery evolves around two bank robbers who meet again after a long time.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Fade Away

Hundreds of young boys and girls are kidnapped and killed in different parts of the U.S. But the U.S. law and legislation sometimes hold back search operations.

11:50 Home Free

At last Vanessa dates someone after the death of her husband.

Sunday, Oct. 16

7:30 FBI: Untold Stories

8:30 You Bet Your Life

9:10 Sherlock Holmes And The Leading Lady

Monday, Oct. 17

8:30 Coach

9:10 Columbus And The Age Of Discovery

This series seeks to understand the legacy left behind by Christopher Columbus and uncovers the realities and consequences that surrounded Columbus' voyage of discovery.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Love And Hate

A story of continuous struggle between a band and wife over their children's custody. Many sacrifices had to be made for the sake of the children.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

7:10 The Nature Of Things

8:30 Leave It To Beaver

Girl Talks

Old grandma is reluctant to go to Florida. At the same time Kelly plays the role of the sleeping beauty in a school play.

9:10 Shades Of L.A.

Dreams

In his dreams, Mike sees a woman seeking help; he has been dead for a long time.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — The Gnome Mobile

A nice walk in the woods, turns into a wild adventure when a man and his grandchildren run into two gnomes one of which is looking for the lost woman.

11:50 The Upper Hand

Caroline's former husband comes for a visit. After knowing he is changed, she agrees to remarry him, but the question is: Does he want to do so?

Wednesday, Oct. 19

7:10 Galactica

9:10 Cracking The Code

Birth, Sex and death

This episode delves into the subject of the DNA and how it controls the growth of certain cells as well as new studies on the male and female chromosomes.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Poldark

A demonstration starts as a result of the workers' hunger. Sir Francis takes strict measures against them.

11:10 The Exile

The Eye Of The Beholder

Members belonging to a political faction ask for urgent radical changes after holding hostages in a mined building.



Digital arts exhibition opens Sunday

By Cathy King
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An exhibition of digital art, the first of its kind in the region, will be held at the Ain Art Gallery, Wadi Sagra St., opening under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor on Oct. 16 and will run for three weeks.

The owner of the gallery, Dr. Shamil Kubba, has developed a keen interest in computer-generated art, which is drawing increasing attention in the United States, he said.

Dr. Kubba believes that digital art will be encouraged by growing market demand as its use in the commercial sector becomes more popular.

Dr. Kubba has a collection of about 40 of his own pictures, including portraits, landscapes and abstract patterns.

The exhibition, the opening of which has been postponed by three weeks on account of technical difficulties, will display works by Dr. Kubba, Omar Shahin, Karim Annab, students of the American Community School and other artists.

Dr. Kubba stressed the potential of this style of art, saying that artistic work can be enhanced, providing amateur artists with the opportunity to create pictures better than when using traditional mediums.

Different computer programmes enable the user to manipulate the finished product changing the style

from one similar to traditional water colours to more solid colours.

Dr. Kubba says that the capabilities of the computer programmes are vast with many shapes and sizes of "brushes" and an infinite selection of colours. There is a basic palette of colours, and for each one there are hundreds of graduating shades most of which are indiscernible to the eye, he said.

There are three approaches to producing computer art, Dr. Kubba explained. An image can be scanned onto the screen which the artist is then able to modify. Alternatively work can be produced directly on the screen using a "mouse" like a brush or a pencil. The third approach is a combination of the two, which Dr. Kubba says is preferred by most computer artists.

One picture can be transposed upon another and the medium onto which the product is printed also alters the effect. Currently he mainly uses a photographic print-out but he sometimes produces his work on canvas. The latter gives the picture a different texture, he said. Various forms of printing available are ink-jet, laser, dye sublimation and thermal wax among others — all of which result in slightly differing products. The thermal wax, for example, is not as fine as the dye sublimation technique and does not lend to such precise detail.

Despite the innumerable facilities offered by computer programmes and associated technology and the ease with which they can be used, Dr. Kubba said

that the work produced was dependent upon the ability, creativity and imagination of the artist. He also said that individual styles are perceivable, just as with any other art form.

The huge expense required for artists to indulge in this kind of art limits it to the wealthy, but Dr. Kubba hopes that increased interest will lead to reduced prices of equipment, which will, in turn, open the door to more aspiring digital artists.

While appreciating the technological wonders involved, to the unaccustomed eye this style of art seems to lack the benefits of physical mediation between brush and paper. Pictures of views appear "placeless" and some portraits look no more than photographs. Despite the huge range of colour, digital art pictures do not exhibit the depth of colour of traditional paintings. But this is a personal opinion of one with negligible fascination for computer-generated anything.

The significance of this exhibition is that it will be the first digital art exhibition to be held in the Arab World.

Dr. Kubba said that Jordan has become one of the major cultural centres in the region having witnessed a marked interest in artistic activity in recent years. This has resulted largely because of encouragement gained from official and royal patronage.

Dr. Kubba intends the exhibition to incite other like-minded artists to try their hand at exhibiting locally and internationally.

Summer lessons: Record season showed what flicks click

By John Horn
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The just-concluded summer film season was Hollywood's best ever, with ticket sales reaching \$2.2 billion. A record eight movies grossed more than \$100 million — and two, *Forrest Gump* and *The Lion King*, collected in excess of \$200 million.

— Don't let Sony Pictures make or release your movie.

Just when you think the company's Columbia and TriStar Studios' reign of error can't get any worse, it does. How's this for a bunch of winners? *City Slickers 2*, *Little Big League*, *North and Wagons East* were two mild hits — *Wolf* and *It Could Happen To You* — but the losers heavily outweighed the winners.

— Disney's animated films are king — but will that last?

The *Lion King*'s profits cannot be measured by its \$264 million box-office receipts alone, since the animated musical is merely the axis for a world of profits, from merchandise to theme-park attractions. The challenge is for Disney to repeat the magic with next year's *Pocahontas*. Jeffrey Katzenberg, the studio executive behind the animated films, recently resigned, and successor Joe Roth has limited animation experience.

— Art films can still work in the summer.

With highbrow audiences repulsed by lowbrow fare, several quality art films managed to play well despite heavy competition from the big studio releases. The standouts include *Eat Drink Man Woman*, *Barcelona*, *Widow's Peak* and *Fresh*.

The distributors of these independent films used to avoid the summer completely, but now they no longer run for cover.

— Too many movies cannot fit into too little space.

Disney, for one, jammed the summer season with many movies that didn't even last as long as *Shannen Doherty's Marriage*. The here-today, gone-tomorrow Disney list included *In The Army Now* and *Camp Nowhere*. It didn't help, either, that critics hated both.

— MGM isn't back. Yet.

The studio's new management is aggressive and determined. Like the old regime, however, their movies aren't popular.

The summer was an O-for-2 bust: *Getting Even With Dad* and *Blown Away* both fizzled.

— Hollow hype doesn't work. Word-of-mouth does.

If a movie is not interesting, people will not talk about it. *Miramax* tried to establish *The Advocate* as the "year's most controversial movie." What it was: One of the year's most unwatched movies.

Forrest Gump, on the other hand, succeeded not because of Paramount's marketing campaign. People saw the movie, and recommended it to friends.

— Sell what you have.

One week, the advertisements for *I Love Trouble* made it look like a romantic comedy. The next week, the spots cast the Julia Roberts-Nick Nolte movie as a thriller.

Moviesgoers didn't know which it was (actually, it was just a mess), and didn't bite.

Jerry Lee Lewis opens home to public tours

by Woody Baird
The Associated Press

NESTON, Miss. — Graceland it's not. But that's just fine, thank you very much, with pioneer rocker Jerry Lee Lewis. He likes his rural residence just the way it is.

"This is not a museum. This is our home," said Kerrie Lewis, the 58-year-old rebel's sixth wife and midlife crisis controller.

Struggling to pay off a \$560,000 debt to the Internal Revenue Service, the Lewises have opened their house to public tours through October, at \$5 per visitor.

Except for its iron driveway gates with piano design, the brick, ranch-style house 25 miles (40 kilometers) south of Memphis shows little on the outside to distinguish from many others in rural, north Mississippi.

There's plenty of open space, lots of trees and all the lounging, dusty yard

dogs one could want.

And aside from the gold records and Lewis family pictures, the Sears best interior is pretty routine, too, though the general feel leans towards a kind of country-boy French provincial.

A toothy cougar skin Lewis calls Jane dominates the living room floor, and clear plastic covers encase a white sofa and matching chair.

A rather worn, white piano supports more family photos as well as softball trophies won by a team Lewis once sponsored. A large "glamour photo" of Mrs. Lewis, 31, used at the grand opening of a shopping mall portrait studio, graces a nearby wall.

It's a lived-in house, with the tours run primarily by friends of Lewis, his wife and their 7-year-old son, Lee.

The foyer is big enough to turn around in and opens to the narrow hall leading past the living

room and kitchen to the den. The three bedrooms are off limits to tourists.

The den, dotted with small ceramic collected by Lewis, has a black leather sofa in front of a large picture window overlooking a muddy, 4-acre pond. (Most Mississippi ponds are muddy.) Parked on the bank was Lewis' jet ski.

"As soon as y'all are ready, we can go out and see the famous, piano-shaped pool," tour guide Melody Holmes said.

The history of Lewis' stormy career and his home's proximity to the Memphis residence of the other rock 'n' roller, Elvis Presley, lead to inevitable comparisons.

Lewis has struggled through much of his career in Presley's shadow, and a mention of Elvis' Graceland causes a bit of bristling.

"We're not going to line them up like a herd of cattle and bring them through," Mrs. Lewis

Lewis has carried on a running battle with the IRS since the 1970s and

has lived a life buffeted by drugs, booze and broken marriages.

A tour of the house, though it lacks the flash of a Graceland visit, does offer the chance of a special treat for fans.

"At least once a week,

Jerry Lee has walked out into one of the tours when he forgot," Mrs. Lewis said. "They got to see Jerry Lee at home in his robe or wearing jeans and a T-shirt."

Lewis appears to have toned down his hard living since his marriage in 1984 to his current wife, who has taken an active role in straightening out his finances and personal affairs.

Now, he's trying to settle with tax collectors. The house tours are part of that effort, along with plans for a new album and a book on his life being written by a British author.

Lewis is also performing on stage whenever he can, now that the IRS (for he's lived in since 1973.

It's owned by a long-time friend, but Lewis had a lifetime lease to live there. The IRS seized that lease last year and sold it at auction for \$32,800.

Mrs. Lewis bought it back for an undisclosed sum.

Buzzy bee is back in search of New Zealand style

SELLINGTON (R) — A painted metal butterfly tilted to a modest wooden house has metamorphosed into a New Zealand icon.

The once fashionable exterior, which made plain weatherboard houses stand out from their suburban neighbours in the 1950s and 1960s, is part of an exhibition touring New Zealand that seeks to define the country's national style.

The exhibition, "Kiwiana", is above all a celebration of the ordin-

ary and an unashamed attempt to cash in on a national nostalgia boom after a decade of radical change," he says.

The exhibition comes at a time when some New Zealanders are pondering their country's identity after calls by Prime Minister Jim Bolger to cut constitutional links with the British monarchy and become a republic.

The down-to-earth flavour of the exhibition reflects a practical, resourceful streak in the national character that New Zealanders like to call "Kiwi ingenuity."

Not surprisingly for a people outnumbered 15 to one by sheep, New

Zealanders have no shortage of rural symbols.

They are all here, the makeshift shed with rusting corrugated iron roof, the black singlet and gumboots worn by the archetypal Kiwi farmer and the thick woollen swanndri jacket, or swanni.

The chief symbol of rural ingenuity on display is the Taranaki Gate, the name given to any farm gate cobbled together from wire and wood is on hand, with an emphasis on practicality, not aesthetics.

But the most popular

icon, Mr. Wolfe says, is Buzzy Bee, a red and black striped wooden toy, popular in the 1950s and 1960s, which has yellow wings and buzzes when pulled along the floor by a string.

Buzzy, billed as New Zealand's other national animal, after the flightless Kiwi, is trendy again, currently featured on stamps, in advertising campaigns and, of course, in toy shops.

The exhibition features a statue of Buzzy made of corrugated iron, the roof-

ing product that itself features as a part of the rural way of life.

The idea for the exhibition, like the Kiwi boot polish featured in it, actually came from Australia, but that does not detract from its popularity.

More than 45,000 people saw it in Auckland and it is now on an 18-month national tour, on show in a refurbished Wellington City Art Gallery that currently has three separate exhibitions all contemplating the national navel.

Kevin Costner's starring role in the epic *Wyatt Earp* would seem surefire, given the success of *Dances With Wolves*. But the latter had a compelling story to tell and a point of view. *Wyatt Earp* had neither and thereby lost a staggering \$50 million.

— Tom Hanks, Harrison Ford and Jim Carrey are the hottest stars going.

Audiences loved the story behind *Forrest Gump*, but if not for Hanks the film never would have been the huge hit it is. Similarly, there were flaws in both *Clear And Present Danger* and *The Mask*. But Ford and Carrey's presence carried both films above their predecessors.

The goal is to recapture a moment in history.

Silent films combined "the quintessential artifact of the 19th century," the live orchestra, with "the quintessential artifact of the 20th century," the mechanical moving picture, Anderson explained.

"Nothing else collapses the two centuries that way," she said.

Restoring the music to silent films

By Connie Cass
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — They are never meant to be lent. In their heyday, the "silent movies" were alive with the rumble of kettle drums, the sonorous tones of the organ, the whine of cellos.

A movie wasn't just flickering shadows in black and white — it was a event, often featuring a full orchestra plus an organ.

When three decades of silent films ended in 1929, the orchestras were disbanded, the organists left, the music lost.

Gillian Anderson's mission is to find those forgotten movie scores and bring them to life again.

"It's rejoining the lives of an original work of art that has been cut in vain," says Anderson, a music specialist at the Library of Congress.

Now art museums show

on the notion that silent films run at this crazy speed, everybody rushing around, with just a little tinkling piano going in the background," she said. "That's a perversion of the original."

At the peak of the silent film era, some 500 U.S. theatres had full orchestras to accompany films, Anderson said. Smaller cinemas had 10-piece or five-piece ensembles; only the smallest theatres offered a lone pianist or organist.

Many films arrive at movie houses with only a cue sheet listing snippets of music to be played with each scene. The music was drawn from catalogues of thousands of interchangeable mood pieces.

Some directors, including Griffith and Chaplin, demanded more.

They commissioned composers to write the first original film scores, pioneering an art that is

intrinsic to movies today. Yet for decades to follow, movie buffs would watch these early films in silence.

It took Francis Ford Coppola to revive silent movie grandeur.

Coppola's studio resurrected the 1927 French silent film *Napoleon* — with an orchestral score written and conducted by Coppola's father, Carmine. The 4½-hour epic toured the country to great fanfare in 1981.

"I've been here 25 years trying to save the old films," said David Parker of the Library of Congress' vast collection of movie music submitted for copyright. That can be tricky, because much of the music doesn't carry a label noting which film it was written for. And only about 10 per cent of the silent films survive today.

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Now art museums show silent movies accompanied by piano or small

ensemble, and major orchestras occasionally perform under a flickering screen in Switzerland.

A handful of composers write new scores for silent films, said Ed Stratmann, assistant curator of the George Eastman House film collection in Rochester, New York.

"Ten years ago, you would have found one or two people doing this," he said. "Now, probably it's in double digits."

Anderson's approach is different. As a scholar, her goal is not to create, but to recreate.</p

Plague exposes Indian health system

By Michael Battye

Reuter

NEW DELHI — The plague that panicked the world has exposed huge deficiencies in the Indian health system and some doctors are warning further disease will follow unless something is done.

"If conditions, methods of operation, remain as they are, then this plague is only the beginning," said Dr. P.V. Unnikrishnan of the Voluntary Health Association (VHA).

"I have to warn you very seriously that our health system is deteriorating and other epidemics will undoubtedly happen unless radical changes are made."

The outbreak of highly infectious pneumonic plague that erupted in the west coast city of Surat on Sept. 19 has left many puzzles unresolved.

Why it hit mostly men and was transmitted in the workplace rather than at

home, is one, World Health Organisation (WHO) chief Hiroshi Nakajima told a recent news conference.

Nor, he said, was it clear why the disease had not spread like wildfire across the country when 300,000 people fled Surat in terror of the plague and its mediaeval image.

Cases appeared in eight of India's 26 states but all except four of the 56 deaths from a disease now easily curable by common antibiotics were in Surat.

And fewer than 300 other suspected cases proved positive among India's population of 900 million, many of them poor and ignorant of modern health practices.

It was also far from clear why the plague had erupted in Surat and whether there was a connection with a preceding outbreak of bubonic plague hundreds of miles away.

That happened in the western state of Maharashtra in an area where

10,000 people were killed in a massive earthquake a year ago and was known to be susceptible to bubonic plague.

The bug which causes plague lives in the soil and is known to flourish after seismic disturbances. Rats commonly ingest the bug with their food. Nobody died of bubonic plague.

A WHO team plans to probe such questions and look into ways of guarding against a disease which centuries ago killed one-third of Europe's people and 12 million Indians between 1889 and 1918.

But lessons have already been learned for India and many other countries where plague cases have been detected in past years.

India's monitoring system for a disease that had not struck in 30 years emerged as being woefully inadequate.

Although thousands of rats, which pass the plague to fleas which bite and infect humans, are tested for the disease each year,

that is clearly not enough, said Dr. Ashish Kumar Mukherjee, director general of India's health services.

"The early warning system was neither accurate nor effective," he said. "We need more laboratory facilities, more manpower. We now have four laboratories (for monitoring the plague). We need many, many more."

Such moves, however, merely touch the surface of the wider problems of Indian health care, said Dr. Unnikrishnan of the VHA, an independent body.

"Did you know that one Indian dies every five minutes from tuberculosis?" he said. "That one-third of the population is exposed to malaria, that one-third of the world's leprosy sufferers are Indians, that of 22 million children born each year, 2.5 million die before they are one, that 40 per cent of them suffer from malnutrition and 50 per cent of children and 65 per cent

of women are anaemic?"

In addition, the majority of India's people still do not have access to safe drinking water and are constantly exposed to gastric diseases, often fatal because village health care programmes do not work, he said.

Dr. Unnikrishnan said that in the years after independence from Britain in 1947, India spent 3.32 per cent of its budget on health in a big effort to set

up facilities in rural areas.

Now that figure is down to 1.88 per cent, rural health care merely sputters and health education, while heavily publicised by the government, does no more than skim the surface, he said.

"About 80 per cent of the health budget is spent on hospitals and research facilities, which are always in the big cities and towns where 70 per cent of the people live in the country-

side."

Doctors are ignorant, hence some private doctors with their own clinics fled from Surat as terrified as their patients, Dr. Unnikrishnan said.

"There is a deep danger here that the politicians left it to the bureaucrats to deal with the plague. They were absolutely absent from the front lines," said one senior official who declined at the idea of being named.

That is an argument that brings smiles of agreement in the long, long corridors of the Health Ministry.

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Features

Jordan, Israel finalising 'peace package'

(Continued from page 1)

once resolved "will necessarily form a peace treaty." Although the source would not reveal specifics, he confirmed that the "concepts" have been mostly agreed upon and that the details that still have to be worked out "will not delay the signing of a peace treaty."

Neither side is denying that negotiations have moved into the critical stage although both also appeared to want to leave the big announcements to the leadership of the two states.

Asked whether the negotiators had lost their role after the apparent moving of negotiations to the leadership level, Mr. Rubenstein said that the negotiators "are doing whatever possible to bridge the gap, but there are matters that either have to be confirmed or be bridged by the leadership."

"This is a sensitive stage in negotiations," he repeated when questioned over the details of the "peace package" adding that revealing any information "would not serve neither the Jordanian or

Israeli side."

But he did confirm that the negotiations during this round of bilaterals were largely concentrated on "formulating ideas" vis-a-vis the water, territories and security issues.

Asked whether Israel was disputing Jordanian claims to any territory, Mr. Rubenstein said that he would not label the status of the territories as disputed or a security concern and that the final status of the territories was a technical question that will be largely determined by the delineation and demarcation of boundaries.

He, however, pointed out that a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel could be signed before the completion of the demarcation "which will take a long time."

Jordanian delegation sources concurred with Mr. Rubenstein on this point. "Delimitation of boundaries is the most important phase in the resolution of the territorial issue because it defines, on paper, where the international boundaries should be."

"Demarcation is the process of implementation on the ground," a Jordanian de-

legate said.

On water, Jordanian spokesman Marwan Mnasher told reporters that "it is just a matter of numbers and quality of water that we are negotiating."

According to other sources close to the water talks, the final details on the number in cubic metres that constitute the Kingdom's water shares in the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers may be left open until a last-moment intervention at leadership level.

The principles guiding the security arrangements between Jordan and Israel, according to sources from both sides, "have been largely agreed upon" and most of the negotiations now are concentrating on the details concerning these principles.

Although none of the

negotiators interviewed by the Jordan Times would reveal specific details of the agreements that are being reached during these talks,

there appears to be a consensus among delegates from both sides that the drawn out

negotiations between Israel and Jordan over the past three years may be coming to a close.



Swiss workers unload the coffins of members of the apocalyptic Order of the Solar Temple (AFP photo)

U.S. says Iraq continues to pose threat

(Continued from page 1)

ships plus 21 more U.S. ships now steaming towards the Gulf.

Iraqi officials accuse the United States of seeking to create a crisis to prolong the international sanctions that have been stifling Iraq's economy.

In an interview on Iraqi Television, General Amer Mohammad Rashid, the officer in charge of coordinating activity with the United Nations, said Monday that the United Nations was "always trying to create pretexts for keeping the blockade imposed on the people of Iraq."

Lifting the sanctions would allow Iraq to resume its oil production, which before the embargo averaged three million barrels a day. Iraqis believe that the major Gulf oil producers are seeking trying to keep Iraqi oil off the market.

The U.S. and British "position in the Security Council is very weak so they

wanted to blow something up and draw attention away from the main issue, lifting the sanctions," said Abdul Razak Al Hashimi, director of the Baath Party's foreign relations department.

Russia, France and China, fellow permanent members of the Security Council, had supported easing sanctions to reward Baghdad for cooperating with U.N. inspectors charged with destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Since the latest crisis began taking shape, Iraq has highlighted Moscow's efforts to intervene, apparently hoping to exploit the split within the Security Council.

Both Gen. Rashid and Mr. Hashimi as well as foreign diplomats said they saw little sign that a military exclusion zone would do much to forge any sort of internal opposition against Iraq.

"Whatever the U.S. is doing, thinking it will change the system of government, will not work," Al Hashimi said.

Majali: Gulf ties improving

(Continued from page 1)

sides, Dr. Majali said that this was not possible at the moment since such a confederation can only take place between two independent entities, with the people expressing their free will.

"How can we talk about confederation at a time when

the two sides are beset with huge political and economic issues?" said the prime minister.

However, he stressed, there is no Jordanian-Palestinian struggle over any part of the occupied land and Jordan will continue to provide all possible assistance to the Palestinian people.

GATT official urges WTO entry

(Continued from page 12)

provisions have been specially built into the agreements so as to give the developing countries sufficient time to fully meet their obligations.

Jordan applied to join GATT in January. The Singapore-headed working group was set up in March to negotiate the Kingdom's entry. The Jordanian government is drafting the memorandum that explains the Kingdom's economic policies and the terms it would like to have while entering GATT.

However, it is not late to drop the GATT application and apply direct to WTO, said Mr. Kesavapany, adding that Jordan would be able to complete the process in about 12-18 months time.

A marked advantage Jordan would have in entering the WTO would be that it would not have to deal with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the WTO as three distinct entities with conflicting policies.

Hamas assails Christopher

(Continued from page 12)

Palestinian leader strongly condemns the kidnapping while Mr. Christopher told reporters Mr. Arafat had told him the operation was directed against him personally.

Hamas, which claimed the "heroic operation" was conducted by its Izzedine Al Qassam brigades, demanded the release of its founder Sheikh Ahmad Yassin who is serving a life sentence in Israel. It also said Israel must free all jailed members of Izzedine Al Qassam Brigades, 50 other Hamas militants, 25 members of the Islamic Jihad movement, 50 members of Fatah and 10 activists of the Democratic

Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

In the statement, the Islamic movement said Mr. Christopher's comments will not succeed in distorting the image of Hamas, which "the Palestinian people, our Arab and Muslim nation and all the free people in the world know, is a patriotic movement exercising its people's legitimate right to fight those who scattered its people and violated the sanctity of their holy shrines."

It said the right to resist occupation is one guaranteed by all religions and international laws, adding that it will continue to oppose the peace talks and to resist the occupation until all of Palestine is freed.

By Danny Ruevekamp

LARISA is fed up with men and sex, at least for the time being. Very pale and shaky, she carefully lies down on the sofa in her grandmother's house. She just had her fourth abortion. Larisa is 23 years old.

Why Larisa at the age of 23 had her fourth abortion in a so-called developed country relates to the sad family planning history of the 75 post-revolution years of the former Soviet Union.

Legalising abortion as an instrument of family planning dates to the October revolution of 1917. Terminations were performed in state hospitals free of charge upon a woman's request. On the one hand this was a result of egalitarian ideas and the increasing involvement of women in the labour market, and on the other hand a result of the rapidly deteriorating situation and famine in the years after the revolution.

The view held in those days was that abortion was only a temporary phenomenon and would be reduced as soon as living conditions improved. This also meant that little attention was paid to the development of contraceptives.

Surprisingly, Larisa and most other Russian women do not protest against the intolerable situation they have to put up with.

"We've never learned to protest" is what most Russian women say. "If every other thing is rotten also, like queuing for food, working all day and having an uninterested and often drunken husband at home in the evening, abortion does not stand out as more horrible than any other problems we have to live with," is a comment often heard.

There was no point for women in seeking the support of the Soviet Women's Committee, the only

women's organisation that was allowed in the former Soviet Union, either. Nor could they ask for help or seek advice of the three official women's magazines or the women in parliament.

These women were not chosen for their interest in the difficulties women faced in their daily life. They were chosen because they agreed with everything the party dictated. And the party dictated that the life of a Soviet woman was wonderful. The magazines only printed stories of women that happily performed all their duties and still found time for embroidery. Sexual matters were not discussed at all.

But there are other reasons why Russian women put up with the lack of proper family planning services. The long isolation of the former Soviet Union certainly restricted knowledge about the development of contraceptives in the West.

Some doctors claimed that an abortion a year is good for the female constitution. Perhaps more relevantly, performing illegal abortions was and is a very lucrative addition to the poor salaries of gynaecologists.

A lot needs to be done, including education on sexuality, for all ages and both sexes. The involvement of men in discussing sexual behaviour and birth control is urgently needed. Most men in the former Soviet Union still consider family planning a female affair that requires no interference from them. "Let the women talk it over in the kitchen," they agree.

Most men will not use condoms and women dare not carry them out of fear

of being considered prostitutes. Gynaecologists admit to never having seen a couple together in their surgery. Men will have to be taught that it takes two to make a baby.

In 1991 Russia saw the end of the rule of the Communist Party, but life has not yet ceased to be an endless struggle for survival.

Though it's dawning on Russian society that the current situation cannot be tolerated much longer, there are huge hurdles ahead. Plans proposed three years ago, to open 12 family planning centres in Moscow met with a number of problems: the inertia of the bureaucratic system; the lack of finance; a shortage of trained personnel and people's suspicion of government agencies.

But a start has been made. In St. Petersburg, for example, there is now a centre for family planning, funded to see 30,000 women a year, and a young people's centre has been opened with a small family planning element. The Russian Family Planning Association is gradually building services — there are 28 branches at present — and its training for doctors and its new and translated materials should help doctors to become more confident about counselling and providing contraception — when supplies improve.

IPPF Feature.

Professional gambling skills help forecast German election result

By Michael Anders
Agence France Presse

BONN — To know what's really going to happen at the German general election on Oct. 16, one's best bet might lie with the bookmakers or those professional gamblers, stock-market operators.

Interestingly, neither seem much influenced by the recent electoral defeats of the liberal Free Democrats (FDP) and the effect this might have on the future of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's current centre-right coalition.

By comparison, it gave the chances for a Social Democrat coalition with the environmentalist Greens as 10-1 against.

More probable, according to SSP, is a grand coalition of CDU/CSU with the Social Democrats, at only 6-1 against.

The chances of the Social Democrats winning an absolute majority were very slim, at 100-1 against.

Those of the CDU/CSU winning an absolute majority were five times better, at 20-1.

Asked about their odds following the Bavarian result, SSP's Corinna Papendorf told AFP Monday they had not yet changed, and

cent of the vote, and an even better 3.25-1 chance of winning eight per cent.

This also suggests that the liberals will make the five per cent necessary to win a seat and thus continue with the government coalition, which should be a comfort to both Mr. Kohl and the FDP leader, Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel.

Latest SSP figures indicated likely voting strengths as follows: CDU/CSU 42 per cent, SPD 36 per cent, Greens nine per cent, FDP eight per cent and the ex-Communist PDS between three and four per cent.

Iran's anti-profiteering campaign gains momentum

TEHRAN (R) — A government anti-profiteering campaign has gathered momentum as Iranian officials urged people to inform on hoarded goods warehouses and a radio station launched a programme to expose over-chargers on the air.

Newspapers were filled with complaints about high prices, many naming private or public companies and shops allegedly at fault, since President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani signalled the drive Friday.

Ahmad Khomeini, son of Iran's late leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, acknowledged that bribery and corruption dogged the state bureaucracy and called for a serious fight to root out "economic terrorists."

Tehran Radio quoted Ebriham Rafsanjani, head of the General State Inspectorate, as saying it had set up an inspection force to oversee the campaign, especially at the commerce ministry.

"He urged the people to cooperate with the inspectors to identify food warehouses or places where hoarded consumer goods are kept," the radio said.

Hamshahri newspaper, quoting central bank figures, said year-on-year inflation in urban areas in the first five months of the Iranian year

started on March 21 was 30.2 per cent. The bank put the inflation rate across the country last Iranian year at 22 per cent.

State-run Payam Radio, which broadcasts light music and traffic news in Tehran, started a phone-in programme asking citizens to expose overcharging shops on the air.

The presenter himself named a supermarket which he said charged too much just after he announced the new programme.

The campaign, which was launched after a series of steep price rises in goods including some controlled by the government, bucks a trend towards a free-market economy since 1989 under economic reforms championed by President Rafsanjani.

The president said Friday the government could not be indifferent to profiteers who caused popular dissatisfaction.

Abra newspaper said President Rafsanjani Monday chaired the first meeting of an inner cabinet set up a day earlier to lead the campaign.

The meeting approved a plan for securing supplies of goods which would be tackled in the first stage of the campaign, the paper said

without elaborating.

Complaints printed in newspapers listed a variety of factors for high prices including public sector mismanagement, lack of laws to control the private sector and government raising of utility rates.

Salam newspaper quoted shopkeeper Sina Jafili as saying a government-affiliated foundation had raised the wholesale price of cooking oil it produces by five per cent since last week.

"This shows that even government institutions are not ready to cooperate in the fight against overcharging," it quoted Ms. Jafili as saying.

A pain manufacturer, quoted by Kayhan newspaper, said his workshop's electricity bill had increased ten-fold since March. "We naturally have to raise the price of our products," he said.

Ahmad Khomeini, in a meeting with security officials, said profiteers were more dangerous than armed opposition groups suppressed by the Islamic government.

"The economic terrorists are targeting the entire nation. If we do not deal with corrupt roots seriously, we cannot get desirable results by slogans or just fighting the effects," Mr. Khomeini was quoted by Resalat newspaper as saying.

Rouble crisis balloons; Yeltsin seeks scapegoat

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin fired acting finance minister Sergei Dubinin and demanded the head of conservative central bank chief Viktor Gerashchenko Wednesday as the hunt for a scapegoat for Russia's rouble collapse began.

Mr. Yeltsin said the rouble's nosedive was the result "of sabotage" by groups who organised the disastrous fall.

The currency debacle threatened to blow into a full-scale political crisis as Mr. Yeltsin ordered the head of the former KGB intelligence service to investigate the causes of the rouble's 21.5 per cent crash against the dollar on Tuesday.

The public anger fast turned against the government as the State Duma (lower parliament) called a formal vote of confidence in the government on Oct. 21 at the request of an opposition faction, the Centrist Democratic Party of Russia.

The rouble rose 5.1 per cent on Moscow's Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) Wednesday to 3,736 to the dollar from Tuesday's 3,926 after losing half its value in less than two months.

Mr. Yeltsin's chief of staff Sergei Filatov told reporters the president had signed a decree dismissing reformer Dubinin, whose provisional appointment in January had

never been confirmed.

Mr. Yeltsin also sent a letter to the State Duma seeking the dismissal of Mr. Gerashchenko, Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin said.

Under the Russian constitution, the central bank governor is appointed by parliament on Mr. Yeltsin's recommendation.

Conservative Gerashchenko, a sworn enemy of reformers since taking office in July 1992, has traditionally had support among the Duma's majority conservatives, agrarians and ex-communists.

But Wednesday representatives of all factions seemed opposed to his remaining in office. The Duma put off a decision until Thursday, pending a report from the finance committee.

Refusal to sack him could raise the spectre of another head-on collision between Mr. Yeltsin and his parliament. Last year's confrontation ended in street battles and bloodshed.

Foreign exchange trading came to a halt after news of the sackings. "Nobody knows what sort of policy the new bosses will implement," said Dmitry Piskulov of Rossisky Kredit Bank.

Banking sources named Mr. Dubinin's first deputy, Andrei Vavilov, as a likely candidate for the finance minister's post.

Two Dubinin deputies, Sergei Aleksashenko and Andrei Kazmin, told Reuters they would go if the minister was sacked.

Mr. Yeltsin was not alone in his conviction that the rouble

crisis was caused by shoddy political enemies. Russians brought up under the Soviet command economic system often assume political manoeuvring lies behind economic turmoil.

Economy Minister Alexander Shokhin said the rouble's collapse was a plot to destabilise the government.

"There are forces out there who do not want to see the government in full control. Now we need to find out who all these speculative political and commercial forces on the foreign exchange market are," he told Russia's Ostankino Television.

Mr. Shokhin, a Marxist-educated economist, then vowed to punish "illegal" hard currency transactions on the MICEX market.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You are anxious to go after your personal wishes, but don't use force and make others turn against you in the process.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be tactful with your friends since they are apt to be under some tension or other situation and quick to retaliate against you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You may find it difficult to get backing for practical affairs during the daytime hours, but the evening is fine for such.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be protective of your good name during the daytime, but tonight you can have recreational fun with friends. Use care at work.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You want to get into new interests, but it is important you handle regular routines during the day. Safeguard your money for the future.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Make sure you go over some account well and be sure you have not made a mistake which could be costly. Devote yourself to loved ones.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A partner could be fixed in ideas and give you a rough time if you don't compromise. Reach a happy agreement which is beneficial to all.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You may have difficulty with tasks today, but use self-control and you could win out. Rest up and be happy at home with your mate.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Don't spend too much money for pleasure during the day. Await the evening to seek out inexpensive pleasures which you will enjoy.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) There could be trouble at home if a close tie is under some bad outside influence, so be tactful with this person and all will be fine.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A letter or telephone call could cause problems, but handle them quickly and rise above depressed feelings which could be detrimental to you.

Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY OCTOBER 13, 1994
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have to be careful that someone doesn't get the best of you in some monetary matter today that could have some long-term condition you don't want to deal with. This is the worst day of this month.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Be careful not to take on any heavy investments which could cripple you financially very quickly. Socialise tonight with close companions.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You are anxious to go after your personal wishes, but don't use force and make others turn against you in the process.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be tactful with your friends since they are apt to be under some tension or other situation and quick to retaliate against you.

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Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY OCTOBER 14, 1994

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You can handle letter writing and other routine paper work either at home or in the office today. Keep your eye on your wallet and don't lend your personal possessions to anyone of a questionable nature.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) This is a good day to look into some new interests, but don't confide in others as yet just what you intend to do ideas are still being developed.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Avoid those who have an eye on your assets during the daytime and keep calm. Don't lag behind in social affairs tonight.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Find a better way of meeting your responsibilities and then you can be very constructive in the days ahead and make much progress.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Decide what it is you want in life after you have analysed what is good and what is bad, forgetting the latter.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Analyse how well you are handling your career activities and plan how to improve them so that you can gain more in the future.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Make sure you study every phase of your new ideas before you get them in motion. A new contact can be helpful with a new project.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have made promises which should be kept, so get at them early and they are soon behind you. Keep busy with activities you enjoy.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A conscientious attitude during the day can bring fine benefits tonight. Think constructively and logically for a new endeavour.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Fellow associates may be hard to handle today, but be sure to use tact and they will cooperate more. Be careful spending money.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Seek only those pleasures you can truly afford in the evening, after you get important tasks completed. Avoid difficulties at home.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Study those plans well concerning kin before getting them in operation. Make sure you get bills paid on time to avoid any delinquency.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A day to be most careful and not get into anything which could get you into problems or spoil your reputation. Drive carefully on the highway.

Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline

THE Daily Crossword

by James Barrick

ACROSS

1 Rope for a cowboy

8 Ante

14 _____ arms,

15 Cheesman

16 Inventor Howe

17 Seats by photos

20 Act like a ham

22 Ferber or Milley

23 Matador

24 Take advantage of

28 Posed

29 Old service

30 Overpowering terror

32 Vocal

36 Guide of a kind

37 Place in "Paradise Lost"

39 Combat

41 Shock

42 Pedal pushers

43 Gourds

48 Give the once-over

49 _____

53 _____ chapter

54 Yoga of baseball

55 Dried fruit

56 _____

57 OSS successor

59 Part of Eur.

61 Musical group

62 Gentleman

65 Having a dull surface

66 Forum

70 _____

71 Fever

72 Slope

73 Prof. org.

74 _____ desk

75 Corn bread

76 _____

77 _____

78 _____

79 _____

Business & Finance

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13-14, 1994 9

Financial Markets			Jordan Times	
			in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank	
U.S. Dollar in International Markets				
Currency	New York Close Date 11/10/94	Tokyo Close Date 12/10/94		
Sterling Pound	1.5795	1.5797		
Deutsche Mark	1.5448	1.5453		
Swiss Franc	1.2880	1.2884		
French Franc	5.2850	5.2765**		
Japanese Yen	100.20	100.15		
European Currency Unit	1.2410	1.2372**		
USD Per STG				
European Opening at 8.80 a.m. FMT				
Foreign currency interest rates				
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.51	5.37	5.62	5.87
Sterling Pound	5.25	5.62	6.18	6.75
Deutsche Mark	4.75	5.00	5.12	5.30
Swiss Franc	5.02	5.93	4.06	4.50
French Franc	5.15	5.43	5.62	6.18
Japanese Yen	2.00	2.12	2.25	2.50
European Currency Unit	5.50	5.93	6.13	6.81
Interest rate for amounts exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent				
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin				
Currency	Bid	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0.6980	0.7000		
Sterling Pound	1.1015	1.1070		
Deutsche Mark	0.4511	0.4534		
Swiss Franc	0.5411	0.5438		
French Franc	0.1319	0.1526		
Japanese Yen	0.6962	0.6997		
Dutch Guilder	0.4029	0.4049		
Swedish Krona	0.0444	0.0446		
Italian Lira	0.0444	0.0446		
Belgian Franc	0.0444	0.0446		
Per 100				
Other Currencies				
Currency	Bid	Offer		
Bahrain Dinar	1.6350	1.6550		
Lebanese Lira	0.041115	0.043075		
Saudi Riyal	0.1830	0.1875		
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3100	2.3500		
Qatari Riyal	0.1904	0.1925		
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150		
Omani Riyal	1.7950	1.8160		
UAE Dirham	0.1593	0.1904		
Greek Drachma	0.2745	0.3125		
Cypriot Pound	1.3980	1.5050		
Per 100				

Eurocurrency Interest Rates		
Date: 12/10/1994		
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.51	5.37
Sterling Pound	5.25	5.62
Deutsche Mark	4.75	5.00
Swiss Franc	5.02	5.93
French Franc	5.15	5.43
Japanese Yen	2.00	2.12
European Currency Unit	5.50	5.93
Interest rate for amounts exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent	6.13	6.81

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Per 100		

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Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7950	1.8160
UAE Dirham	0.1593	0.1904
Greek Drachma	0.2745	0.3125
Cypriot Pound	1.3980	1.5050
Per 100		

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET				
HOUSING BANK CENTER, AMMAN - 1994/1995				
ORGANIZED MARKET: BASIC PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 12/10/1994				
COMPANY'S NAME				
ARAB BANK	TRADED VOLUME	PREV. DAY	CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	62,124	1,283,000	1,281,000	1,282,000
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL BANK	35,181	3,958	3,950	3,952
JORDAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	6,125	2,900	2,900	2,900
JORDAN RIBAT BANK	1,034	2,850	2,850	2,850
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	43,722	3,648	3,650	3,652
JOHNSON & JOHNSON & INVESTMENT	81,726	4,050	4,050	4,050
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	7,887	1,920	1,910	1,910
JORDAN FRIEND INSURANCE	4,804	2,600	2,620	2,590
JORDAN REFINERY	34,200	2,000	2,000	2,000
PHILADELPHIA INSURANCE	93,905	4,600	4,600	4,605
JORDAN TRADING & EXPORT	1,726	5,450	5,400	5,400
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	11,741	3,150	3,150	3,150
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	2,650	3,100	3,100	3,100
JORDAN GOLD REFINERY & INVESTMENT	343	1,300	1,310	1,310
UNITED ARAB EAST & CONSTRUCTION HOTELS	107,432	2,570	2,600	2,540
JORDAN EXPANSION INVESTMENT HOLDINGS	704	1,400	1,420	1,400
JOHNSON & JOHNSON & MANUFACTURING	21,511	2,620	2,600	2,785
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	2,324	9,400	9,350	9,450
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL	12,730	8,900	8,850	8,850
JORDAN IRON WORKS & MILLS	14,510	2,900	2,900	2,900
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	3,548	6,450	6,450	6,450
JORDAN PIPE MANUFACTURING	1,931	2,920	2,900	2,900
DAS AL DAHA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	2,470	2,130	2,150	2,140
JOHNSON & JOHNSON & TRADE	35,700	1,050	1,050	1,050
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	31,559	1,410	1,420	1,440
JORDAN IRON & STEEL	6,324	4,150	4,100	4,100
UNIVERSITY INDUSTRIES	33,045	9,050	9,400	9,400
JOHNSON & JOHNSON & PHARMA	2,829	2,200	2,180	2,180
JORDAN SHIPYARD & CHEMICALS	2,161	1,400	1,400	1,400
KANTER INVESTMENT	2,687	2,050	2,050	2,070
JOHNSON & JOHNSON & INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL RESOURCES CO.	19,517	3,400	3,370	3,370
GRAND TOTAL				
NO. OF TRADED SECURITIES IN PARALLEL MARKET				
TOTAL VALUE OF THE PARALLEL MARKET (JD)				

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES		
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.		
U.S. \$1.00 costs		

Canadian dollar	Deutschmarks

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China hits slow day at Asian Games



Ismail Ibrahim Muftah of Qatar carries his national flag after winning the men's 400m athletics event at the 12th Asian Games Wednesday. Muftah won the gold medal in a time of 45.48 (AFP photo)

HIROSHIMA (AP) — A Qatari, a South Korean and strong winds stole the show from the Chinese in Asian Games track and field Wednesday, and injury kept China from winning anything in the opening event of its native martial art.

Winds of up to 36 kph forced postponement of six track and field events, leaving just three finals on the programme. China won one, with 1,500-metre world record holder Qu Yunxia leading a 1-2 finish in the women's 800.

But in the men's taijiquan competition of wushu, the Chinese fighting sport, China's Wang Erping had to drop out with a sprained ankle and Japan's Masaru Masuda won the gold, ahead of Chen Ming-Shu of Taiwan, where the art also flourishes.

The Chinese recouped in shooting, however, with three golds and won the women's soccer championship, beating Japan 2-0 in the final. They also won one judo gold.

Japan, meanwhile, won two golds in judo and one each in cycling, wushu and shooting, slightly expanding its lead over South Korea in the hotly contested battle for second place in the gold medals column.

Japan had 41 golds to 38 for the Koreans, who had victories Wednesday in track, judo and softball tennis.

But China was far ahead with 106. Kazakhstan stood fourth with 17 after a cycling victory.

In total medals, China had 204 to 147 for Japan and 119 for South Korea.

Qu, a member of coach Ma

Junren's "army" of stellar distance runners, took the women's 800 in a games record 1 minute, 59.85 seconds, with teammate Liu Li second in 2:00.66. India's Shiny Wilson took the bronze in 2:02.22.

South Korea's Lee Jin-II also broke a games record in the men's 800, winning in 1:45.73. China's Ma Weiguo was second in 1:46.44. The old record of 1:46.81, set by India's Charles Barremeo, had stood for 12 years.

Ibrahim Ismail Muftah captured Qatar's second gold medal in 45.48 seconds, with South Korea's Shon Ju-II taking the silver in 45.87.

Japan took two of the day's four gold medals in its native sport of judo. Shigeru Okazumi was a decisive winner over Kim Jae-sik in the men's 95-kilogramme division, and Jun Konno beat Iran's Seyed Miran in the open class.

In the women's competition, South Korean's Kim Mi-Jung scored clear victory over China's Leng Chunhuai at 72 kilogrammes and Zhang Ying of China was a decisive winner over Chen Ming-Shu of Taiwan in the open class over Taiwan's Yeh Wen-Hua.

In cycling, Japan's Masanaga Shiohara won the men's one-kilometre time trial with 1:05.581, breaking the games record of 1:06.789. South Korea's Hong Suk-Han took the silver in 1:06.317.

Vadim Kravtchenko of Kazakhstan won the 4-kilometre individual pursuit, beating Kyrgyzstan's Evgeniy Vakkere 4:40.509 to 4:40.757 in the final and breaking the 8-year-old games record of 4:44.850.

South Korea beat Taiwan 3-1 in the final for the gold medal in the women's team event of softball tennis, a variation on ordinary tennis developed at a time when Asians had a hard time

obtaining a regular supply of the customary tennis balls. A soft rubber ball is used, and scorekeeping is different.

But Taiwan gained revenge in the men's final, beating the Koreans 3-2.

In standard tennis, South Korea's Yoon Yong-II upset No. 1 seed Leander Paes of India 6-7, 2-7, 6-4, 7-5 in the semifinals. In the final, he will play No. 2 seed Pan Bing of China, a 6-3, 6-3 winner over third seed Benny Wijaya of Indonesia.

The women's singles final will be all Japanese. No. 1 seed Kimiko Date ousted Indonesia's Yayı Bauski 6-0, 5-7, 6-0 and Naoko Sawamatsu beat China's Chen Li 6-1, 6-3.

Japan captured one of Wednesday's shooting medals, but China took the other three.

Noriko Ojima won for Japan in individual standard rifle shooting, beating China's Xu Yanhua 666.7 to 662.7. But China won the team event with 1,698 and South Korea took silver with 1,692.

Wang Yifu tied a games record in winning the individual standard pistol event with 575, and helped his team take another gold with a games record 1,714. China also had set the old mark of 1,708.

China won the women's basketball bronze medal by trouncing Taiwan 83-81. South Korea and Japan will meet in the gold-medal game Thursday.

Pakistan, the defending games champion in men's field hockey, bowed to South Korea in the semifinals Wednesday. The Koreans won a penalty shootout 4-1 after the two teams tied 2-2.

In Saturday's final, the Koreans will play perennial power India, a 1-0 winner over Japan.

"This was the actual reason they were not elected, and not as reported by some newspapers that their exclusion was because they were accidentally named to the same committee," he explained.

"It was discovered on the day of the election that Qadri Hassan was accidentally

Fawwaz: Jordan made its best debut in Asian Games

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In addition to its participation in the athletic events of the 12th Asian Games currently underway in Hiroshima, Japan, Jordanian delegates have been elected to the permanent committees of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

Dr. Mouafaq Al Fawwaz, chairman of the Jordan Olympic Committee (IOC) Wednesday asserted at a press conference that Jordan's participation in the games was the best to date.

"This was the best delegation that ever represented Jordan, whether in terms of preparation or results obtained," he said.

For the first time, Jordan was on the official medals table after earning four medals in the taekwondo competitions.

The 12th Asian Games in Hiroshima marked the second time Japan has hosted the games, the first time having been in Tokyo. The games also marked the first time that the games have been held in a non-capital city.

Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, representing the Kingdom in the equestrian competition, qualified along with 12 others to the final round but was unable to compete when she was thrown off her horse and was hospitalized for two hours, suffering bruises in her chest and right leg.

Jordan secured two silver and two bronze medals in taekwondo.

Mohammad Al Zu'bi earned Jordan's first medal when he won the silver in the flyweight class after losing to South Korea's Chin Seung-Tae.

Zu'bi, who was injured in the final, settled for second place and was unable to compete. He later had his left hand put in a cast.

Ammar Fahed won another Silver after losing the middleweight final to Kuwait's Hameed Hassan.

Yousef Abu Zeid won the bronze in the lightweight category, while Fawzi Nuweiri won the other bronze in the heavyweight competition.

In the athletics competition Awad Seelys came in sixth in the 10,000 metres setting a new Jordanian record at 29 m13 seconds. He will next compete in the 500 metres.

Meanwhile Hassan Abu Njem qualified for the final of the 800 metres competition where he finished last on Wednesday with a time of 1 minute 49.09 seconds.

Results in the karate competition were the most disappointing. Na'eel Owaini was disqualified for mask abuse when the referee announced that his opponent from Taipei was the winner. In a moment of rage, Owaini hurled his protective face mask at the attending fans. The referee decided to cancel all his results and disqualified him from the competition in which he had secured fifth place.

His teammate Fa'eq Al Ja'far pulled out of the competition in the second rounds because of injury.

In the shooting competition, Khaled Nagawy set a new Jordanian record and came in 13th which qualifies him for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic games. Meanwhile teammate Radi Abdul Raghib failed to score a satisfying result.

The JOC had decided to limit Jordan's participation to athletics, equestrian, shooting, taekwondo, and karate, since athletes of the five sports had met the requirements and criteria for participation in such an international competition.

Jordan's last participation in the Asian games was back in 1986 in Seoul where Jordan won a medal in taekwondo which was then an exhibition sport.

Boxing chief to suspend judges

HIROSHIMA (R) — Up to a dozen boxing judges may be suspended for incompetence after the Asian Games end, the head of the World Amateur Boxing Association said Wednesday.

International Amateur Boxing Association President Anwar Choudhry said he decided to take the action after complaints about the result of several fights in Tuesday's semifinals.

"I am going to take action after the competition is over and 10 to 12 people may be saying goodbye," Choudhry told Reuters in an interview.

Choudhry singled out for criticism the judges for the light heavyweight semi-final between South Korea's Ko Young-Sam and Kazakhstan's Vassili Jirov, which Ko won 17-10 on points.

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Ma's mystery disappearance resolved

HIROSHIMA (R) — China's long-distance running coach Ma Junren Wednesday finally revealed the mystery of his squad's disappearance from the international circuit, saying 11 of them had their appendices removed.

"We had to stop training last year because we were getting sick. We were having toxicological problems and that is why we are running slower times," he told Japan's national news agency Kyodo.

"Eleven Ma's family army members had to have their appendices removed and they needed to recover from their operations," Ma said.

Ma, famed for feeding his world record-breaking athletes turtle's blood potions, did not elaborate on the causes of their system problems.

His stunning disclosure answered one of sports great mysteries for the past year.

Ma's stable of women run-

ners have remained a source of speculation and mystery since they swept the board at last year's world championships in Stuttgart.

Wang Junxia went on at the Chinese national championships to top an astonishing 42 seconds off the 10,000 metres world record in 29 minutes 31.78 seconds and bettered the 3,000 metres records by 16.5 seconds.

The results drew criticism from Western coaches who accused Ma of using banned substances to improve performances, allegations strongly denied by the coach who says they are the result of advanced training methods.

In the interview the flamboyant coach also denied speculation that he is at odds with China's centralised sports bureaucracy.

He said the state Commission for Sports and Physical Culture, China's sports ministry, was in charge.

Palestine grabs spotlight in brief appearance at games

HIROSHIMA (AFP) — Palestine hijacked media attention at the Asian Games for 30 minutes here Wednesday after losing its one and only event.

Fifteen-year-old table tennis player Mohammad Rabie Al Turk was unhappy to have lost his first round match in the men's singles tournament.

"I was scared and I played very badly," he said of his 7-21, 9-21, 15-21 loss to Indonesia's Anton Suseno.

But surrounded by television cameras and a crowd of journalists afterwards, he displayed none of the fear he attributed to failure.

"I am very proud to be here representing Palestine. It is my country," said the Cairo-born teenager.

"There will be many more of us under our flag at Atlanta."

He hopes to be selected for the 1996 Olympic Games team, but must beat others wishing to compete when the Palestinian flag appears for the first time since Israel granted the West Bank and Gaza Strip town of Jericho limited autonomy.

Al Turk showed some of his potential in the third game against Suseno, defeating a supportive gallery with some exciting attacking play.

"Maybe I played better in the third game only, but in the first and the second, no, I was very bad."

Now that the pressure is off, Al Turk said he planned to enjoy himself.

"I think will do some shopping," he said.

Then it's back to study. He missed two weeks of high school where he is

studying in the hope of becoming an engineer to help rebuild the homeland he has never lived in.

His father, Rabie Al Turk, 51, who fled the Gaza Strip in 1967 after the 1967 war, said his boy played well.

"I never think about winning, I don't believe that's what sport is about," said the elder Al Turk, who works in the Palestinian office in Cairo and was Palestine's table tennis champion before becoming a refugee.

"Here all we hoped to do was to extend Palestinian friendship," he said.

He is at the games as deputy president of Palestine's National Olympic Committee. "I am proud of him. He's here, and he raised the flag for Palestine. That's more than enough."

Sports still perplexed by man-woman question

HIROSHIMA (R) — Top medical experts at the Asian Games have failed to come up with a clear-cut answer to the vexed question of who is a man and who is a woman in sports.

At the end of a conference this week on the issue only two things were clear — chromosome testing was not the answer but some test was needed.

"I am afraid without controls there will be imposters," said Dr. Charoenstan Chintasri, deputy governor of Thailand's sports authority.

"It's possible, it can happen. They can do it by genetic engineering," he added.

The conference was held against a background of accusations by some Western coaches that there was something suspicious about the sudden emergence of China's recent women world record swimmers and middle distance runners.

Among the most poignant experiences heard at the conference was from a Filipina doctor who revealed the case of a "female" high school athlete who had both male and female organs.

Dr. Bee Giok Tan said the athlete, brought up as a girl, wanted to participate in international competition but while International Amateur

Athletics Federation (IAAF) rules do not require gender or femininity verification, examinations are performed on a case by case basis.

"I am afraid she won't be allowed to compete," said Tan. "She is not intentionally trying to pose as a man."

"I don't know how to proceed in the current situation," Tan said. "She has both male and female organs."

The IAAF stopped testing female athletes in 1992 after they concluded chromosome testing was inconclusive and scientifically inaccurate in determining the sex of an athlete.

"The only reason for gender or femininity testing is to exclude any man from a woman's competition," said Dr. Arne Ljungqvist, vice-president of the IAAF.

"It's to protect female sports from male intruders," he said.

"But in my opinion, in today's sport there is so much media attention, I strongly doubt any man would go into a woman's high level sport," said Ljungqvist.

Since the IAAF eliminated gender verification, other sport organisations have followed.

This year no women were asked to take the gender test at the Commonwealth Games in Vancouver and testing was also stopped at last year's University Games.

gender test before they are allowed to compete.

But even Dr. Yoshio Kuroda, chairman of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) admitted: "It's still difficult for me to determine if someone is a male or female, we must study and investigate this matter, it's not so clear."

The dilemma for Asian Games officials is their event falls under International Olympic Council (IOC) rules, where female athletes

are still required to take a

gender test before they are allowed to compete.

France opposes strike on Iraq if all Iraqi forces away from border

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — France believes that a military action against Iraq would be unjustified if it is confirmed that Baghdad had withdrawn all the troops it had moved southward towards the border with Kuwait last week, French Ambassador to Jordan Bernard Bajot said Wednesday.

Mr. Bajot said France was interested in easing the new tension in the Gulf but stressed that it was up to Iraq to take the first step towards that by withdrawing its troops from near the Kuwaiti border.

The ambassador said the recent Iraqi movement of troops had undermined all efforts to ease the international sanctions which have been imposed on Iraq since it invaded Kuwait in 1990.

He said France had good hopes that the United Nations would have been able to register signs that Iraq was moving towards implementing all U.N. resolutions and thus move towards an easing of the sanctions but the Iraqi movement of troops "had pushed things backwards."

The ambassador stressed

that France had no other requirements for the lifting of the sanctions and its policy has always been not to interfere in the domestic affairs of other nations "even if (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein is not a model for democracy."

The French diplomat said France feels very closely with Jordan's position that it will stand against the party that would raise the prospects of having Arabs fighting Arabs again.

"Iraq will have to make new efforts to convince the United Nations that it will cooperate with it in the future," the French ambassador told the Jordan Times.

Among the steps that Iraq would have to do, he said, is to recognise the U.N.-drawn border with Kuwait in an unequivocal manner and at the appropriate level.

"You cannot totally forget what Iraq has done," Mr. Bajot said.

Asserting the independence of French policy in the Middle East, the ambassador said France's position had always been that the sanctions can be lifted "as soon as it is proved that Baghdad has complied with all relevant U.N. resolutions."

In a statement faxed to the Jordan Times, Hamas condemned the remarks that Mr. Christopher who made a highly convened press conference early Wednesday.

Hamas said Mr. Christopher had proven that the United States had become a tool for the Zionist lobby by

devoting a press conference to condemn the kidnapping of the Israeli soldier.

The statement, which had no date line, said Mr. Christopher's attempt to mobilise public opinion against Hamas shows "disregard for all the values that his 'democratic' government boasts of" and constitutes a declaration of confrontation with Arab and Muslim people who support Hamas.

In the broadest hint of Gen. Cedras' next destination, U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said Panama "is a very good possibility."

"I think the opposition that has been military-oriented will have their feet cut out from under them," Mr. Schrager told ABC's "Good Morning America."

Washington has asked Panama to accept Gen. Cedras, Gen. Biambay and 12 other Haitian military officers, said Eric Rodriguez, a Panamanian Foreign Minister.

Mr. Rodriguez urged

Gen. Francois, the other coup leader, is also running into trouble overseas. The lower house of parliament in the Dominican Republic unanimously declared him "persona non grata" Tuesday and called on Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer to expel him.

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